No. 35,061

Part of the problem, a defense official said, arose from the fact that 'almost no one on the Clinton team knew either candidate." Both Mr.
Lubbers and the other candidate, Uffe erd ects sch i in and ol in Ellemann-Jensen, the former Danish foreign minister, were in office during

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See NATO, Page 4

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The World's Daily Newspaper

Paris, Saturday-Sunday, November 18-19, 1995

Herald International Cribune.

Paris Spurns Italians and Belgians for **Nuclear Vote**

Allies' Action in UN To Condemn Testing Arouses French Anger

By Craig R. Whitney
New York Times Service

PARIS — France angrily canceled meetings with the leaders of Italy and Belgium on Friday because their countries had voted for a United Nations resolution strongly deploring French and Chinese nu-

clear testing.

The resolution called for an immediate end to nuclear testing, which has been conducted only by France and China this year. Ten European Union countries voted for the measure, but France singled out Italy and Belgium, both members of the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, to show its displeasure, President Jacques Chirac was to meet with the leaders of both countries next

Catherine Colonna, Mr. Chirac's spokeswoman, said that he had decided to postpone a meeting with the Belgian prime minister, Jean-Luc Dehaene, on Wednesday and call off a summit with the Italian prime minister, Lamberto Dini, in Naples next Friday.

The circumstances were not appropriate," Ms. Colonna said Friday after-

Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, Portugal, Ireland, Sweden, Finland, Austria, Luxembourg and Denmark were among 95 countries that voted for a resolution by a United Nations committee deploring all current nuclear testing. Germany, Spain and Greece abstained, as did the United States, Britain and France were among the 12 countries that voted against the res-

Mr. Chirac resumed French testing in the South Pacific in September but said France would sign a comprehensive test ban treaty and make the current series of tests its last. They will end early next year, Mr. Chirac says, after France has tested a new warhead for its submarine-based nuclear deterrent and acquired the capability of simulating

future tests by computer. 'We deplore the position taken by some

See FRANCE, Page 4



PARIS PROTEST -- French students using a coffin Friday to symbolize the failing health of their universities. Page 2.

Hint of Clinton Budget Concession

WASHINGTON - The political test of strength over the federal budget showed signs of easing Friday even as President Bill Clinton prepared to veto the latest Republican plan to put the government back in business.

The first breath of compromise came from the Senate Democratic leader, Tom Daschle, who said Mr. Clinton might be willing to back off from his demand for a temporary government finance bill without any Republican strings attached.

He predicted that "a middle ground" would be found in the

But there were perhaps as many negative signs as positive. orchestration of Mr. Clintoo's veto of a temporary financing bill The White House said Mr. Clinton would veto a military spending bill that was larger than he wanted, and the House

adopted and sent to the Senate on Friday a balanced-budget bill that the president has also vowed to veto as "bad for Amer-

The long-term House budget bill would cut \$1 trillion in pending to achieve a balanced budget by 2002. It was approved, 237 to 189, with the vote split nearly along party lines. For the impasse to end, Mr. Daschle said, Republicans would

have to move away from their "hard-core, hard-line" dictates for a seveo-year balanced budget that would force deeper spending cuts than Mr. Clinton wants.

See BUDGET, Page 4

The Irish and Divorce: Divisiveness Tears at Nation

By Fred Barbash Washington Post Service

DUBLIN - In 1937, when Ireland wrote its constitution, it intertwined the law of the Roman Catholic Church and the law of the state in a marriage that the country's of 80,000 people separated from their founding fathers hoped would never be tom asunder.

Since that time, successive generations have battled over disentangling the two, with each side winning some and losing some. Last year, the issue was a law alowing women access to information about bortion, which itself is illegal.

Now they are engaged in struggle once igain, this time over lifting the constiution's ban on divorce, despites the hurch's teachings against it. The issue will e decided in a referendum Friday, and this vattle already has shown it may be the most passionate vet - as well as very close. Every day, new placards go up. Every iight, new debaters appear on television.

each separated woman in favor of legalzing divorce is marched by another opsosed, with an equally sad tale to tell. For very study, there is an interpretation and a ounterinterpretation. While all the major arties are formally in favor of a "yes" olc. many of individual members are not. The constitutional amendment would ermit divorce for couples separated for our of the previous five years.

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Up 20.59 4989 95		Up 0.40% 126.33		
The Dollar	Fri closo	previous close		
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in on Templeogue, a southern suburb of tell by their questions, that this is not only and reward deserting fathers? about divorce, or about the "limbo" status spouses, or about the unknown numbers of people in "second relationships" unable to dividual rights of free choice? remarry because they cannot legally sever

their first marriage. Listening to them in Templeogue, it is apparent that this is also about the fabric of

sacred institution of marriage? Will it not Dublin, one can hear in their voices, and break op family farms, impoverish women

limbo? Won't it violate equally sacred in-

Across the country, pros. cons and undecideds are gathering to argue. Dropping

On the one side: If we say "yes," will it not destroy the Irish family and devalue the percent were undecided. Reuters reported from Dublin:

The Irish Supreme Court ruled Friday that the government was in breach of the On the other: If we say ''no,'' won't it constitution in spending money to pub-condemn thousands to a continued life in licize the divorce referendum, Reuters reported from Dublin.

Indeed, support for legalizing divorce is falling. A poll published Friday in the Independent said only 47 percent of the electorate would vote to end the ban, a fall \$\$500,000 to publicize the referendum. She from 62 percent in a month. The poll said said the campaign favored a "yes" vote.

of the major issues.'

the status of Sarajevo.

The emerging agreement is a package deal that will preserve Bosnia as a unified state in theory, while in effect dividing the country almost equally into separate entities controlled by a Muslim-Croatian federation and the Bospian Serbs. Sources

proximately 10 districts, each with the power to control its own affairs. (AP, WP) Reuters reported from Zagreb: President Tudiman said Friday that Ser-

He said in a televised address that the agreement would be signed in the United

Top U.S. Officials Join Bosnian Talks in Sign Of Hope for Accord

Lubbers Veto

Is Linked to

Concern Over

Balkan Force

By Joseph Fitchett International Herald Tribune

PARIS - The Clinton administra-

tion vetoed Ruud Lubbers, the former

Dutch prime minister, to be NATO's

secretary-general, even at the price of

trans-Atlantic diplomatic strains, be-

cause of U.S. concern about the perils

of a planned peacekeeping mission in

Policymakers in Washington con-

cluded that Mr. Lubbers was 'too woolly minded' for the job, in one

official's phrase, considering that U.S.

ground troops are about to join the

The Clinton administration, faced

with congressional doubts about the

Bosnian mission, wants the alliance's

civilian leader to be someone who can

communicate effectively in Washing-

want a strong-minded NATO secre-tary-general wbo will brush off po-

litical interference by the United Na-

tions or anybody else once allied

It was mainly because Mr. Lubbers failed to coovince Washington that he

could deliver in these respects - and

oot pique over the fact that European

governments went public about their desire to see him get the job — that the Clinton administration balked, U.S.

"Frankly, he bombed in the talks," an official said. Several Clinton administration

aides said that Mr. Lubbers sowed

doubts, particularly in the Pentagon,

that he had the military credibility and

personal decisiveness to sustain back-

ing for the North Atlantic Treaty Or-

ganization in Bosnia if allied forces

campaign to win congressional back-ing. That domestic priority out-weighed State Department concern

about offending the European allies.

In Washington these days, an official said, "Europe is Bosnia and Bosnia is Europe." That mood had

escaped European leaders, but partly

because the Clinton administration

failed to signal its views adequately.

The White House concluded that Mr. Lubbers might be a liability in its

started incurring casualties.

troops are deployed in Bosnia.

officials said.

In addition, American officials

alliance's biggest combat operation.

DAYTON, Ohio - Stirring hopes for peace, the Clinton administration brought top military officials here Friday to review what could be the makings of a com-prehensive agreement on ending the war in

But the White House cautioned against assuming a deal was at hand.

Amid the flurry of activity, there were sharply different assessments within the

administration of how close the parties Two military officials said the hope was

to announce initialing of an agreement

Sunday night or Monday.

The White House spokesman, Mchael McCurry, said: "We're not at a stage yet where we can be optimistic or pessimistic. They're wrestling with the most difficult issues. I don't think there's any guarantee of success.

Defense Secretary William J. Perry and the top NATO commander joined the talks Friday at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, and Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher was en route after cutting short a visit to Japan. A source close to the talks said there was a strong possibility that President Bill Clinton would fly to Dayton if a peace agreement is reached

Mr. Clinton's national security adviser, W. Anthony Lake, secretly flew here Thursday evening for separate meetings with the leaders of the Muslim, Serbian, and Croatian delegations, who bave been holed up with U.S. and European negotiators for the past two weeks at the air

In another bopeful sign, President Franjo Tudjman of Croatia said Friday that Serbia and Croatia bad agreed to fully oormalize

Despite the latest involvement of toplevel Clinton administration officials, the State Department was cautious in its public comments on Friday.

"I can tell you, after discussions with participants in the talks this morning, that that agreement is not yet attained," said the State Department spokesman. Nicholas Burns. He said "the parties are still separated in fairly substantial ways on several

He cited territorial questions as well as

An administration official said Mr. Clinton's decision to dispatch Mr. Lake and Mr. Perry was a positive sign. This official couple of map issues."

Still outstanding was the Serbs' insistence on a corridor that gives them access to the Adriatic to the south and Serbia to the

close to the talks said that the capital, Sarajevo, is likely to be given a special status as a unified city divided into ap-

bia and Croatia had agreed to fully nor-The court ruled in favor of an appeal by malize ties four years after Zagreb's se-

cession from former Yugoslavia. States after a final Bosnian deal had been

AGENDA

Clinton Apologizes to the Japanese

Clash of Styles in Polish Election THE AMERICAS House Sweeps 'Freebies' Away

China and U.S. Set New Contacts

Paris and Bonn Share EMU Goal THE MONEY REPORT

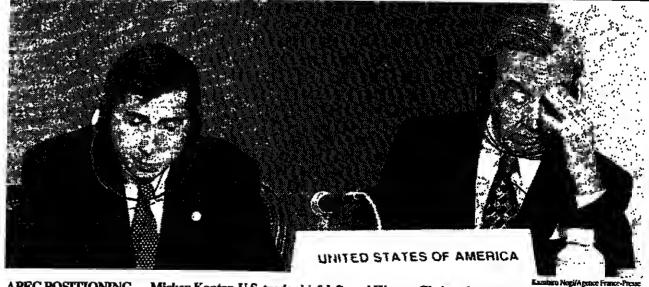
Forecast for Insurance Stocks Opinion Page 6. Crossword Page 24.

WASHINGTON (AP) - Two days after canceling a trip to Japan, President Bill Clinton on Friday expressed his "personal regret and outrage" over the rape of an Okinawan girl for which three U.S. servicemen have been arrested.

Hoping to soothe hurt feelings in Tokyo over the cancellation, the president also promised to visit Japan "as quickly as 1 Mr. Clinton had planned to use the trip to express remorse for the Okinawa inci-

"On behalf of the American people, we want the Japanese people to know we share their outrage and their pain and I want to express my personal regret and outrage to the family and the young woman and to all the people of Okinawa," Mr. Clinton said.

"It's a terrible thing."



APEC POSITIONING --- Mickey Kantor, U.S. trade chief, left, and Warren Christopher, secretary of state, reviewing a statement that the forum will send to Sunday's meeting of Asian and Pacific leaders in Osaka, Japan. Page 15.

Subway Madness: Beijing's Growing Pains Ring Out Underground "Look at those teenagers," she said. "They are the

By Patrick E. Tyler New York Times Service

BELIING — "Hey, don't you know bow to ride a hour.

train?" the woman on the Beijing subway yelled as she pushed past two peasants so overloaded with luggage the door are part of commuting life, along with stale air that they were blocking the door. "Move over and and, perhaps, the whiff of a cow party citl wedged in make room for those of us who want to get off!" in and out of their frightfully overburdened subway

Riding on a mere 40 kilometers of underground track, the dilapidated trains of the Beijing subway carry 1.46 million people a day. About 70 percent of them are the transient laborers who have flooded the

city to work at thousands of construction sites. The average railcar here, designed to carry 180 people, now consumes about 300 passengers during rush

Full body contact and brief, terrifying stampedes for and, perhaps, the whiff of a cow party still wedged in the shoe leather of a visiting farmer.

It is rush hour in the Chinese capital and the people of Beijing, like so many surly sardines, are trying to get take the subway because so many country bumpkins ride the subway and they wear dirty clothes and carry dirty lnggage," said Zhang Mei, a 27-year-old nurse from Beijing Hospital. "You can't wear your pretty clothes and take the subway. By the time you get to work, your pretty clothes are filthy.

quickly disappearing into the crowd.

With the harvest over, the migrant population flood-Her eyes narrowed as she spied her adversary.

typical bumpkins I am talking about."

ing into Beijing will push toward the 2 million mark. The capital's public transportation system, already overloaded, is approaching its limits.

"This job can be very tough," said Qi Yuan, who wore a smart, aquamarine uniform on the platform at a The unkempt teenagers are from Sichuan Province, population 105 million. Their hair stands as a tangled subway stop named Build the Nation. Her job is to yell at passengers to "Hurry up!" and "Don't push!" as they enter and leave trains. When the doors stop rebellion above ruddy cheeks. Each carries a quilt stuffed in a plastic fertilizer bag, standard luggage for banging against the body parts hanging over the threshold, Ms. Qi bolds up a green paddle that serves as the "all clear" signal to the train conductor. frugal peasants who do not mind sleeping on side-

you my name," a 19-year-old said, "We do odd jobs and we live near the railway station," he added, quickly disappearing into the crowd." "When a train comes in, so many people rusb the entrance that it can be dangerous," she said. "A lot of quickly disappearing into the crowd." rules and sometimes they get into fights over the

Many residents of Beijing attribute much of the

See BELJING, Page 4

free market, both seek the stamp of NATO and European Union approval, both demand faster privatization. But then Mr. Walesa lonks into the television cameras, assumes an exaggerated pout and says that he fears a and whom can they trust? Bolshevik, a criminal, a villain among Six years after the fall of commu- have 45 years of baggage nism, in their second free presidential

By Christine Spolar Washington Post Service

WARSAW - To see and bear Pres-

ident Lech Walesa and his post-Com-

munist challenger. Aleksander Kwas-

niewski, debate Poland's future, one

would think they were political

brethren: both want to move toward a

Sunday not oo democracy or its reforms, but on memory.

And the contest, firmly rooted in democratic principles, remains too close to call, surveys indicate.

Despite campaign oratory that warns darkly of a return to Communist times, change is not at stake here. Neither is ideology nor the commitment to democracy. Instead the vote has pushed Poles to turn private misgivings into a public question of confidence. What should they remember

"It's not a question of them going the crowd. Mr. Kwasniewski ignores back," said a longtime Western diplothe gibe and continues, articulately if mat. "Rather, people have choseo this somewhat doggedly, to assert that he as a face-off. Perhaps because they can best lead Poland beyond the past. need a face-off to sort things out. They

This last round of Walesa vs. Kwas-

weeks of campaigning, an unnerving, nasty and sometime contradictory examination of values in the country that lit the flame of revolutionary fire in Eastern Europe.

Clashing Styles Mark Polish Presidential Face-Off

By their very natures, the candidates the graying, portly, earthy Mr. Walesa and the savvy, tanned, facile Mr. Kwasniewski — are confounding the natural instincts of voters in a country ooce hamstrung by Soviet in- run in five years. efficiencies and oow leading among the region's emerging markets.

Five years ago, the second-round choice was between the Solidarity trade union hero, Mr. Walesa, and a nationalist unknown, Stan Tyminski. Then, voting for Mr. Walesa meant to fight against evil, as a pollster, Lena Kolarska-Bobinska, said this week.

But now, she said, "even for those

election, Poles are facing a referendum niewski has set off, in the final two who are anti-Communist, Aleksander race is too close to call. As much as 63 Kwasniewski appeals as a tamed

> Indeed, Mr. Kwasniewski will emerge a winner even if his candidacy fails. He garnered 6 million votes in the first round. Since 1993, when his coalition won overwhelmingly in Parliament, he has shored up his base as a legitimate alternate to the right. And he has laid the groundwork for another

> Mr. Walesa, the 52-year-old electrician turned statesman, made a remarkahle comeback Nov. 5 after bottom-rung popularity ratings through his presidency. In the first round, in which 13 candidates competed, both men won nearly the same percentage, with Mr. Kwasniewski slightly on top with 35 percent of the returns.

The latest surveys show that the

percent of the nation's 28.5 millioo voters are expected to go to the polls.

In the end. Poles have asked for a showdown between two candidates vastly different in image and background, which perhaps explains why both men have large negative ratings among prospective voters.

Mr. Walesa, the Nobel laureate who personified the struggle against the Communist regime, has repelled supporters by his confrontational style of governing and a sometimes bullheaded refusal to admit mistakes.

Mr. Kwasniewski, 41, a member of the Communist Party until the system collapsed around him, has emerged as the most accomplished of his Democratic Left Alliance coalition, a distinction that has earned him antipathy from rightist and centrist followers.

French Students Press

Paris Protest Targets Budget

By Craig R. Whitney
New York Times Service

MARNE-LA-VALLEE, France— In 1968, French students took to the streets and nearly made a revolution. In 1995, they are taking to the streets again — for more professors, bigger classrooms and better libraries from the government so they can study hard-

er and find good jobs. That is the message from the barricades around the architecturally stunning cantilevered and glass-paneled buildings of the new university here. And it is essentially the same in some 15 other French universities on strike this month for better

budget-cutting days, reflecting a revolution of a different sort that began in higher education in France and much of the rest of Europe after 1968. Then, there were 300,000 students in French universities. Today, there are 1.5 million, and many of the 79 state-funded universities are bursting at the seams.

The university administratioo agrees that the campus needs more conteaching administrative personnel and more permanent professors. and the strikes here and elsewhere have been low-key, with most classes continuing despite

the occupations of university This week the lecture halls here were packed with students plotting the most effective strategy to get more mooey for their

studies out of the Education Ministry in Paris, where thou-sands of them will converge on Tuesday to step up pressure to make the minister, François Bayrou, come up with more France will spend 43 billion francs (\$8.6 billioo) on the uni-

versities this year, only 4 percent more than in 1994, though there are about 5 to 6 percent more students. All they pay is their own room and board, books, and a 670-franc (\$135) annual registration fee. Tuition is free.

So when unemployment started hitting double-digit levels in the early 1990s, many all combat missions, including high school graduates who the use of Tornado aircraft, but might have pounded the paveleft its parliamentary deputies ments in a good job market start-

The result was explosive keeping measures, including growth at universities like this one, which opened in 1989 with The party cannot defeat Mr. 166 students and 14 teachers Kohl's majority in Parliament, and administrative personnel. but it could stop him from This year there are 5,903 students and 347 teachers and nonteaching personnel — not

eoough, many students say. Overcrowding is also a problem in Germany and other European state-funded university systems where the only admissions requirement is a high school diploma.

Socialist governments in the late 1980s and early 1990s increased the education budget by 10 percent a year in some years. But President Jacques Chirac's conservatives have limited the increases in the past two years to just above the rate of in-

flation. halls of the main administration building at Marne-la-Vallée were festooned with banners like this one: "Spare some

change to continue our stud-"I think we have a problem of budget growth," said Bernard Dizambourg, a senior

official of the Conference of University Presidents Marne-la-Vallée, "but what the students want is unrealistic."

For Money, Not Marx

working conditions.

Not Marxism, but more money for alma mater is what

German Socialists Compromise on Bosnia Force

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatcher
MANNHEIM, Germany The new leader of the Social Democratic Party, Oskar Lafontaine, and his predecessor, of crisis. Rudolf Scharping, tried to re-store unity in the divided party on Friday by securing a compromise on the emotive issue of

German troops for Bosnia. phoria to topple the embattled

Both men joined forces to unexpected election. persuade delegates, oo the last coodemn the use of German peacekeeping package.

The conservative Frankday of the party conference, to furter Allgemeine Zeitung ooted that much of Mr. La-Tornado fighter-bombers over fontaine's credibility was built imposed on itself for 50 years in

ATHENS JAIL RIOT - Inmates wearing protection against tear gas being used by Greek police Friday, the

fourth day of a revolt at the Korydallos prison. Also Friday, a foreign inmate was hanged and burned by the rioters.

alysts unsure if he could lead underlined the rifts that com- as a 'power for peace'? That is tia in World War II. the Social Democratic Party out mentators say have oot been the question with which Laresolved by Mr. Lafontaine's footaine has returned to center-

stage in German politics." Mr. Lafontaine has long argued that Germany should not said. abandon the military restraint it

"Will Germany remain a re- many must be wary about en- Democrats' future line. liable link in the Western com- tering foreign wars because of

and lackluster Mr. Scharping
On Thursday, but left many an

But the pacifist-pragmatist munity of shared values and its Nazi past, incloding support interests, or will it go its on way for a Nazi puppet state in Croa-

that we must mention to realize how difficult it is to be fair to all sides in this situation," he

But the compromise on Bosnia that he and Mr. Scharping pushed through gave no clear pointer to the Social

It insisted that the party reject with the option of approving a ed hitting the books instead. package of international peacethe Tornados.

claiming a national consensus for German involvement in military missions abroad. In a poll, the Forsa institute

put the Social Democrats up 6 points at 34 percent and Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats down 4 at 43. (Reuters, AP)

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Herald Eribune THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPES

BRIEFLYEUROPE

Germans to Keep Eye on Russia

FUERSTENFELDBRUCK, Germany - Russian troop and weapon movements will continue to be watched by Germany after Moscow became a technical violator of a European arms control agreement Friday.

Military sources at this German air base said that Moscow had already agreed to allow Germany, the only Western country carrying out monitoring flights over Russia, to make at least six more flights next year.

Russia moved into violation of the Conventional Forces in Europe treaty by failing to agree to reduce its military border strength before the Friday deadline.

Argentina to Give Italy Ex-Nazi-

ROME - A former Nazi SS officer, Erich Priebke, will be flown under police escort to Italy next week to face a war crimes trial after he lost his fight against extradition from Argentina, official Italian sources said Friday.

They said the 82-year-old former captain, who was sought on charges of crimes against humanity, would be put on a special flight from Argentina on Monday and arrive in Italy on Tuesday.

Mr. Priehke, who has lived openly in the Andean ski resort

of Bariloche since 1948, is wanted for the massacre of 335 men and boys at the Ardeatine Caves just south of Rome in

Italian Party Threatens to Bolt

ROME - Italy's federalist Northern League walked out of the Senate during a budget debate Friday in a dispute over immigration, and a party leader said it could pull out of

Parliament as the next step.

The threat hy Francesco Tahladini, Northern League leader in the upper house, raised the stakes in a political debate over how mugh to get on illegal immigrants. They are hlamed by the party for a rise in crime.

He said the party would decide its next step at a meeting of its self-styled "northern parliament" Saturday. (Reuters)

Britain Tries to Spur Ulster Talks

LONDON — Britain tried to pump new life into the Northern Ireland peace process Friday, freeing more than 80 Catholic and Protestant prisoners and announcing that it had new proposals to put to the Irish government. Aides to Prime Minister John Major said the proposals

would probably be sent to Prime Minister John Bruton during the weekend and were intended to start a twin-track approach to the peace process. The proposals could pave the way for a British-Irish summit meeting, which was postponed at the last mioute in September, much to the annoyance of Britain. It accused

Dublin of caving in to pressure from Sinn Fein, the political

wing of the Irish Republican Army. Judge Removed in Berlin Case

BERLIN - A Berlin court removed the presidiog judge in the manslaughter trial of East Germany's last hard-line Communist leader, Egon Krenz, on Friday upholding a defense allegation that he was biased.

The defense objected to Judge Hansgeorg Braeutigam after he agreed to upgrade the charges against Mr. Krenz and five other former East German leaders. They are accused of responsibility for the deaths of refugees fleeing over the

The trial, which began Monday, was adjourned for a week after just five minutes to allow another court to examine the The court upheld the objection by a defendant, the former Politburo spokesman Günter Schabowski, against Judge

Braeutigam but rejected another by Mr. Krenz that two of the

TRAVEL UPDATE

head judge's colleagues were also biased.

Sweden Is Stilled by Snowstorms

STOCKHOLM (Reuters) — The worst snowstorms for more than two decades struck western Sweden oo Friday, closing schools and offices and bringing road, rail and air traffic to a virtual standstill, officials said.

1.

Agin to the second

Emergency services said that in the western city of Gothenhurg and surrounding areas, cars were trapped oo highways, trains stopped in their tracks and power lines toppled. At least 70,000 households were without power.

Ferry traffic to neighboring Denmark stopped, scheduled opcrations at hospitals were canceled and police stations were short of staff because the weather. Military vehicles were used to clear

A blizzard also struck much of Denmark oo Friday, forcing a. change in plans for the wedding Saturday of Prince Joachim and a Hong Kong economist, Alexandra Manley. The couple had been scheduled to ride through the city in an open landau, but palaceofficials were expected to substitute a closed carriage.

Chinese Tout Laser Landing System

BEIJING (Reuters) - China has developed a laser-assisted ground control system to ensure the safe landing of aircraft, among the first in the world, the Xinhua news ageoey said on

The system promises safe landings in even in inclement weath-So on Friday the entrance er, and thus can improve flight punctuality. the agency said. Fixed on either side of the runway, the laser equipment can emit a light beam that can be seen by a pilot at altitudes of 8,000-10,000 meters even at night or in foggy weather, Xinhua said. A five-year trial at Shanghai's Hongqiao airport showed that the system was twice as effective as ordinary landing systems. The laser system is expected to be widely applied in other Chinese airports, it said.

United Airlines has found that a favorite occupation of assengers is looking out the window for a glimpse of their homes. A Harris survey commissioned by United found that 45, percent of people who look out the window try to pick out their homes, but only 29 percent are successful. The survey, which dealt with some of the less-than-burning issues facing air travelers, also found that 38 percent never use the lavatory during a flight. Two-thirds prefer eating free peanuts. 26 percent would rather have pretzels, and the rest are not able to make up their

Italian buses, subways and local rail lines closed Friday morning for four hours, paralyzing traffic in cities across the nation as thousands of commuters took to their cars. The national labor federations called the strike to protest government plans to cut pension benefits. Sporadic transportation strikes are also scheduled for Dec. 5 to 7.

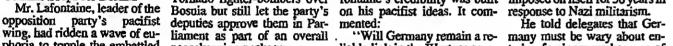
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NBCE: Holy Trinity, (Anglican/Episcopalian), 11 rue de la Buffa: Sunday Eucharist at 11 a.m.; Weekdays as on notice board, VENCE: SLHugh's, ave. de la Résistance: Sunday Eucharist at 9 am. Contact Father Kan Lates 93 87 19 83.

FRANKFURT INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC COMMU-NITY, Masses: Sat. 5:00 p.m., Sun. 10:00 a.m. at St. Leonhard's Church (near Dom). Alte Mainzer Gasse 6, Frankfurt. Phone: 06172-451197.

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ST. JAMES' CHURCH, Sun. 9 a.m. Rite i & 11 a.m. Rite II. Via Bernardo Rucellal 9, 50123, Florence, Italy, Tel.: 3955 29 44 17. **FRANKFURT** CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING

(Episcopal/Anglizari) Sun. Holy Communion 9 & 11 a.m. Sunday School and Nursery 10:45 a.m. Sebastian Pinz St. 22, 60323 Frankfurt, Germany, U1, 2, 3 Miquel-Allee. Tet: 49/69 55 01 84. GENEVA

EMMANUEL CHURCH, 1st & 3rd Sun. 10 e.m. Eucharist; 2rd & 4th Sun. Morning Prayer. 3 rue de Monthoux, 1201 Geneva, Switzerland. Tel.: 41/22 832 80 78.

MUNICH THE CHURICH OF THE ASCENSION, Sun. 11:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Sunday School, Nursery Care provided. Seybothstrasse 4, 81545 Munich (Harlaching), Germany. Tel: 49/89 64 81 85.

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WIESBADEN THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, Sun. 10 e.m. Family Eucherist. Frankfurter Strasse 3, Wiesbaden, Germany. Tel.: 4961130 8874

BAPTIST CONVENTION BERLIN I.B.C., BERLIN. Rothenburg Str. 13, (Steglitz). Bible study 10.45, worship at 12.00 secti Sunday. James Hetlin, pastor. Tel.: 030-774-4670.

BONN/KÖLN LB.C. OF BONNKÖLN, Fiheinau Strasse 9, Köln. Worship 1:00 p.m. Calvin Hogue, Pastor. Tel.: (02236) 47021.

BRATISLAVA LB.C. (English language, evangelical) luventia Room 205, Karloveska Ulica 64, Sunday 10:00, Pastor Ben Hanna, Tel. 715367.

i.B.C. (English language) meets at Evangetish-Freikinshlich Kreuzgemeinde, Hohenlohestrasse Hermann-Bose-Str. (around the comer from the Behmfol) sunday worship 17:00 Emest D. Walker, pastor. Tel. 04791-12877. BUCHAREST I.B.C., Strada Popa Rusu 22. 3:00 p.m. Contact Pastor Mike Kemper, Tel. 312 3860.

BUDAPEST I.B.C., meets in Mortos Zsigmond Girmazdum, Torokvesz ut 48-54, Sundays. 10:00 Coffee Feltowship, 10:30 Worship. Take Bus 11 from Batthyany ter. Other meetings, call Pastor Bob Zbinden, Tel. 250-3632.

BULGARIA I.B.C., World Trade Center, 36, Draham Tzankov Bwd. Worship 11:00, James Duks, Pastor. Tel: 669 666. CELLE/HANNOVER

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WIESBADEN I.B.C. 13 rue Vernier, English service, Sunday evening 1800, pastor Ray Miller -Tel.: (093) 320 565.

ZURICH - SWITZERLAND

LB.C of Wädenswii (Zürich), Rosenbergstr 4, 8820 Wädenswill, Worship Service: Sunday morrings 11:00. Tal.: 1-4810018.

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INTERNATIONAL CHURCH Copenhagen, 27 Fervergade. Vartov, near Rådhus. Study 10:15 & Worship 11:30. Tel.:

FRANKFURT TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, Nibelunger Alice 54 (Across from Burger Hospital), Worship 11 a.m. w/Child care. Tel.: (008) 599478 or \$12352.

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ON THE ONE HAND - Representative John Kasich of Ohio, chairman of the House Budget Committee, displays the rival budget plans that are causing the deadlock in Washington: the Republican proposal and the president's.

Park Closed? Ask the Budget Bears

By Susan Levine Washington Post Service

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, California - All morning long, in a quiet and soothing voice, a Yosemite park ranger, Rick Gushue, sent away visitors as one of America's most beloved national parks started locking up.

"I'm sure you guys are aware of the budget situation," he said, bending toward the driver's window of car after car. "The shutdown is still in effect, and as part of that Yosemite has been ordered to close. You'll have to turn around. Sorry for the inconvenience, folks.

The scene was similar at 368 other National Park Service sites, including the Grand Canyon, notified Wednesday that they had 48 hours to close because the service could no longer guarantee the safe-

ty and health of their guests. Longtime park officials said they could not recall a previous headquarters request to completely close down major parks over what many see as a short-term spending dispute betweeo Congress and the pres-

Not since August 1990, when forest fires threatened part of Yosemite's breathtaking wilderness, has a mass evacuation been ordered here. The closing, the first in the 76-year history of Grand Canyon National Park, prompted Governor Fife Symington

using national guardsmen to restore park (600,000 hectares) of wetlands, trails, campservices.

"It's a bunch of bureaucratic crap," Dick Gramlich of Thousand Oaks, California, complained as he, his wife and two Yosemite Lodge, contemplating what to do now that their vacatioo was cut short.

'Thank God we toured the giant sequoias yesterday," Ann Gramlich said.
On the lodge's front doors, throughout the historic Ahwahnnee Hotel, on the

'Yosemite is a world class attraction and you can't get into it right now. '

recorded message that usually gives road and weather information, notice of the park's imminent closing was everywhere: By 3 P.M. Friday everyone was to be out.

No figures were available on the number of tourists, campers and botel guests being asked to leave the parks, said Park Service spokesman David Barna. National parks in the West average from 9,000 to 15,000 visitors a day this time of year, he said.

In Florida, Everglades National Park will be shut down by 10 A.M. Saturday with a skeleton staff of 58 keeping watch; 232

of Arizona on Thursday to contemplate employees usually tend the 1.5 million acres grounds and islands. The entrance gates have been untended since Tuesday afternoon, with visitor centers and trails closed.

At Yosemite, where visitors centers and Canadian friends stood in the lobby of the exhibits were closed earlier in the week, park employees will be allowed to remain living in park facilities, as will employees of the coocession company that runs the before you were elected. You gift shops, restaurants and shuttle buses. The Yosemite Village Store and gas station leave. will be kept open for them.

That's small consolation, however. 'I have oo idea what I'm going to do,' said Heleo Seneca, a bousekeeper who lives in a heated Park Service tent a stone's throw from the rooms she cleans daily.

"I'm hoping they come to some agreement. I can't imagine them putting all these people out of work," she said.

will receive back pay there is uncertainty. At the Arch Rock entrance, a park supervisor, Harry Steed, watched as the ranger, Mr. Gushue, spoke to new arrivals. Yosemite is a world class attraction and you can't get into it right oow. I'm not in the business of oot allowing people in here," Mr. Steed said. As he spoke, yet another car turned to head back down Highway 140, and Mr. Gushoe made one more mark on his clipboard. By ooon, he had recorded 36 cars and two buses.

House Sweeps 'Freebies' Away

Ban Is Backed, 422 to 6

By Helen Dewar Vashington Post Service

WASHINGTON -- The House has voted overwhelmingly to ban free meals, expense-paid trips and other gifts to its members in a powerful response to the public clamor for curbing special-interest influence on lawmaking.

gives the House tougher standards than the Senate, which voted in July to limit gifts to a value of no more than \$50 or a cumulative annual total of \$100 of next year. from a single source.

faced with a choice of approving the Senate plan or banning gifts regardless of their worth. The simplest, the cleanest

and the clearest standard was to say, 'No gifts,'' said the stituent interests. speaker of the House, Newt 'The best disin Gingrich, who proposed that the House ban rather than restrict gifts, in part to avoid ethical complications for members who might inadvertently breach the dollar limits.

Lohhyists offer favors only because of members' official position, Mr. Gingrich said. "There's no way around it." be said. "You didn't get the gift

ain't gonna get the gift after you The vote was a victory for junior members who have been aggressively pushing a political reform ageoda that also in-

cludes a lobhying registration and disclosure bill. The new rules bar House members or their staffs from accepting anything from fruit Even among the rangers who expect they baskets to free vacations from virtually anyone except persooal friends or family members.

It specifically bars them from participating in expense-paid golf, tennis and ski outings that are officially held for charity but also provide opportunities for lobbyists and corporate officials to mingle with lawmakers in posh surroundings. Eveo a move to ease the rule to allow members to accept free T-shirts thus unregulated.

or baseball cans was blocked. Members could still accept expense-paid travel for official business and have spouses or children accompany them.

The ban was approved after the House, voting 276 to 154, emphatically rejected a propos-al that would have elimioated the hill's loughest provisions and basically retained the cur-The rules change, approved rent rules governing gifts. Thursday by a vote of 422 to 6, which critics say have invited which critics say have invited abuses that undermine public confidence in Congress.

Both the House and the Senate bans take effect at the start

Like the Senate, the House After rejecting a proposal was responding to a widespread that would have done little public disdain over special-inmore than strengthen disclosure terest influence. While many requirements, the House was members were reluctant to give up their free meals and vacations, the political risk of voting to retain them was too high.

Even opponents couched their arguments in terms of con-The best disinfectant is full

disclosure, not isolation," said the House majority whip, Tom DeLay, Republican of Texas. The proposed rules are so rigorous that members would not eveo be able to "join the Kiwanis Cluh as an honorary member," said Representative Sonny Callahan, Republican of Alabama,

The counterargument was summed up by Representative John Bryant, Democrat of Texas: If you want the meals, the trips and the football tickets. pay for them yourself."

Nothing makes the average voter more cynical than seeing their local member of Coogress on televisioo "cavorting on a beach" or playing golf "with expenses paid by lobbyists," added Representative David R. Obey, a Wisconsin Democrat.
The separate measure to

strengthen registration and disclosure requirements for lobbyists - identical to legislation approved unanimously by the Senate earlier this year --- seeks to plug loopholes in a law that has become virtually toothless. It is estimated that more than half of Washington's 12,000 lobbyists are unregistered and

POLITICALNOTE

Speed Limit Rise Makes Gains

WASHINGTON - Americans are only two votes and a presidential signature away from higher speed limits and a series of other rule changes that have raised backles with safety groups but proven popular in Congress.

After months of wrangling, House and Senate negotiators have finally agreed oo a new National Highway System bill with a number of side issues that have prompted more comment than its main purpose — to release \$6.5 billion in federal highway funds to states for the newly designated 160,955-mile highway system, which already handles a large share of the country's travel and commerce

Battles over billboards and Amtrak held up the bill until this week.

In the end, billboards won and Amtrak lost The legislation would allow states to decide whether to allow billboards on parts of scenic highways by removing the

'scenic' designation oo parts of the highway. But states would oot be allowed greater flexibility to use highway money for Amtrak passenger train service. (WP)

White House Aide Is Acquitted

WASHINGTON - A federal jury Thursday acquitted Billy R. Dale, the former White House travel office director, of embezzlement charges in a case that the defense has contended was a political prosecution inspired by the Clinton Mr. Dale, 58, worked in the White House for seven

residents before Clinton officials ousted him in 1993, resisted lashing out at the administration.

"It's been 30 long months," he said. "I've been angry for 21/2 years, but I've had to keep my mouth shut." President Bill Clinton, asked about Mr. Dale's acquittal.

said it was clear when he took over the White House that there were some problems in the travel office operation but "there were also clearly some serious problems in the way it was handled at the White House."

School Prayers? Issue Is Reborn

WASHINGTON - House Republicans have introduced an amendment to the constitution that sponsors say would

allow organized prayer in school.

Opponeous critized the measure as ton broad and vague, contending that it amounted to a radical revamping of the First Amendment.

The measure, known as the Religious Equality Amendment, was introduced by Representative Henry Hyde, Republican of Illinois, who heads the House Judiciary Committee. Several conservative religious groups, including the Christian Coalition and the National Association of Evangelicals.

support the proposed amendment. The proposed amendment states: "Neither the United States nor any state shall deny benefits to or otherwise discriminate against any private person or group on account of religious expression, belief, or identity; nor shall the prohibition on laws respecting an establishment of religioo be

construed to require such discrimination." The constitution subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee is expected to hold hearings on the proposal next month, and it could reach the House floor early next year.

There is no similar proposal yet in the Senate.

Quote/Unquote

Newt Gingrich, speaker of the House, as the chamber voted to ban gifts from lobbyists: "The simplest, the cleanest and the clearest standard was to say, 'No girts.' You get these gifts because you are a member of Coogress, You didn't get the gift before you were elected, and you ain't goma get the gift after you leave."

AMERICAN TOPICS

Attention Shoppers: Your Kid Just Fell Out of the Cart

About 25,000 children a year are injured when they fall or jump from supermarket shopping carts or when the carts tip over, researchers said in a study in the November issue of the Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine.

More than 600 children a year were hospitalized after shopping-cart accidenis. "These are not trivial injuries," said the lead author, Gary A. Smith, an assistant professor of pediatrics at Ohio State University.

No laws govern shopping-cart design. The researchers' recommendations were to lower the center of gravity or widen the wheel base to reduce the chance of ripping; fit existing carts with training

wheels, and require that children be just as well that contractual obligations strapped in.

The researchers said shopping carts designed for safety.

An industry spokesman disagreed, blaming the accideots on poor super-

Jenny Kronauer of Chicago, shopping at a supermarket with her 16-month-old daughter Anna, said, "If they have the straps you can pretty much keep an eye on your kids. But if that kid gets out and falls, he's going to be seriously hurt, no matter

About People

"It's probably not cool, but 1 go to the Oscars, and I'm damn happy to be there." says Sharon Stone, quoted in GQ mag-azine on what it's like to be a film star. "I go to Cannes, get to ride around with police sirens, stopping cars. I happen to really enjoy it. Am I supposed to pretend this is hell?"

Pierce Brosnan says that perhaps it is

barred him from playing James Bood when he was first approached about the Agent 007 role in 1986. "I was very upset," he recalls in the current issue of People magazine, "Then again, maybe I wasn't up to the role in '86." Now, he says, "There's a bit more age on the face and more scars on the heart and soul." He added, "But I don't drink martinis." The new Bond movie, "Goldeneye," starring Brosnan, opens this month.

Short Takes

It looks pretty, but the chairman of the World Association of Hair Restoratioo Surgeons, Dr. Matt Leavitt, advises young girls and women against pulling their hair back too tightly into flouncy ponytails or classic chignons. He says it can lead to hair loss.

Campbell's Soup has a new slogan, 'M'm M'm Better," a variation on the one it dropped two years ago, "M'm M'm Good."

International Herald Tribune

Did Rudder Cause Deadly U.S. Crash?

By Matthew L. Wald

SPRINGFIELD, Virginia — The pilots of a USAir Boeing experts told the National Trans-737 could have recovered from portation Safety Board. the mysterious rudder swing that appears responsible for the that don't occur," said Michael rrish of the airliner near Pitts- Carriker, a project pilot for the ourgh 14 months ago if they had nereased air speed and ignored he natural inclination to hold heir altitude, officials of the rederal Aviatioo Administra-

tion and Boeing have testified. But nothing in the pilots training told them what to do in the case of such a rudder failure.

We don't train for events 737 at Boeing.

burgh International Airport that killed all 132 people aboard.

Indeed, other experts testified. the 737 was approved by the federal government on the presumption that such events would hardly ever occur, perhaps once in the lifetime of the whole fleet of planes. Boeing still does not acknowledge that such a nudder movement may have occurred, and the safety board has not

reached a conclusion.
But investigators have no

plane's spiraling dive to earth, the biggest unsolved accident in the safety board's history. Mr. Carriker and others also

testified that tests conducted after the USAir crash greatly expanded their knowledge of the turbulence that an airliner

crashed first encountered trouhle wheo it ran across the wake of a Delta Air Lines Boeing 727 that was about 70 seconds ahead and 300 feet above. Mr. Carriker showed a videotape of tests involving a 727 and a 737. The 727 was equipped with smoke generators on each wingtip that made the turbuleoce visible; the plane left tight

In the test, when the trailing rolled 60 degrees; Mr. Carriker said it rolled at a rate of 36 degrees per second, or about 12

The impact of the vortex on the fuselage also produced an unidentified sound similar to one heard on the cockpit voice recorder in the USAir jet as the

the plane hitting the vortex and the rudder swinging is not clear. With no direct evidence that the incident involving the rudder occurred, investigators say that for now they must assume it was a

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a particular Patek Philippe movement requires four years of continuous work to bring to absolute perfection, we will take four years. The result will be a watch that is unlike any other. A watch that conveys quality from first glance and first touch. A watch with a distinction: generation after generation it has been worn, loved and collected by those who are very difficult to please; those who will only accept the best. For the day that you take delivery of your Patek Philippe, you will have acquired the best. Your watch will be a masterpiece, quietly reflecting your own values. A watch that was made to be treasured.

Away From Politics

· Hoping to reduce violence in New York City's schools, the City Council has unanimously approved a law making it illegal for students to carry box cutters — plastic cutters with retractable razor-sharp blades — and banning their sale to anyone under 18. The number of reported violent incidents at a place and the cutters have become the schools set a record last year, and the cutters have become the weapon of choice for students because they are cheap and easy to obtain. School officials last year seized 2,247 of the

 The combined crews of the space shuttle Atlantis and the Russian space station Mir on Friday transferred equipment and experiment data to the shuttle that will be returned to Earth on Monday. Officials with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration said everything was going well on

· Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, has decided not to discipline four students who distributed a computer message that toked about rape and suggested women should not have freedom of speech. They have apologized and will take a class to learn about the problem of rape, the school said. The students, all freshmen, could have faced charges of sexual have granted and misuse of computer resources, both of which harassment and misuse of computer resources, both of which violate campus codes.

Air Bags Called Peril to Children

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Infants and small children always should ride in the back seats of automobiles because exploding air bags can be deadly to them, the nation's public health agency has warned.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said in an announcement here that all child car seats, even forwardfacing ones for infants, should be put in the back seat of the vehicle, where they won't be hit by an air bag. Older children also should ride in rear seats.

The deaths of eight children have been attributed to air bags that inflated during car crashes, the agency said. When triggered, automobile air bags in-flate suddenly, with explosive

leaves in its wake. The USAir plane that

corkscrews of wind, or vortices, floating for miles behind it.

plane's fuselage hit a vortex, it times faster than the autopilot was programmed to roll the plane wheo banking for turns.

accideot began. But the connection between



Patek Philippe S.A. +1. rue du Rhône - 1211 Geneva 3 - Switzerland

Slowly and With Trepidation, Africa Plugs Into the Computer Age

By Howard W. French New York Times Service

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast - In a frigid, air-conditioned office on the 21st floor of this country's ultramodern postal headquarters, Brou Yapo, a senior Telecommunications Ministry official, shrugged as he acknowledged that he was not sure

Only 12 of Africa's 54 countries are

whether the Internet exists in his country.

By African standards, the Ivory Coast But like most of the continent, as the rest of Africa's state-dominated telecommunicathe world forges ahead with computer networks and Internet connections, this coun- of the Internet, fearing that it will deprive

I know this is a priority," Mr. Yapo not one of them. From the White House and does not have network connectivity," said

In addition to the obstacle of ignorance them of revenue.

Everyone realizes that Africa is laglinked to the Internet, and the Ivory Coast is ging, that it is the only part of the world that

has a well-developed telephone network. of this new technology, some officials in Africa's slow start is as much of an opportunity as a handicap. They say many. African countries are coming of age at a time when new information-based tech- aim is to do just this. nologies can help them overcome hitherto insurmountable obstacles.

in copper wiring, and in a sense that is to its efforts. "We are talking about revolutionsaid as he described efforts to improve his the World Bank to international business Lawrence Landweber, a professor of com- advantage," said Peter Knight, a World izing communications in a number of of the compension that it would bring. country's communications links. "There and academic circles, analysts warn that puter science at the University of Wis- Bank official who specializes in commu- countries, including using radio to get acare a couple of major projects to lay fiber- unless Africa gets on line quickly, what is consin and president of the Internet So- nications. "They can go straight into things cess out into rural areas."

Paradoxically, some analysts say they can be pretty close to the leading

"Africa doesn't have huge investments ican official involved in the consortium's

that passed Congress on Thursday night. The president had

turned his veto of an earlier

Republican proposal into a tele-

passed the Senate by a 60-to-37 vote that included "yes" votes

from seveo of Mr. Clinton's

The bill also picked up some

Democratic votes when it

passed the House of Represen-

tatives on Wednesday by a mar-

gin just shy of the two-thirds'

majority needed for a veto over-

The votes were seen by some

as a sign of weakening con-

sensus on the Democratic side,

with some Democrats worried

that Americans, whom public

opinion polls show now hlame

Republicans for the govern-ment closings, could shift to pin

Noting that, a senior admin-

the hlame on them.

specialists about Bospia.

Francisco, Some American lis-

teners had been struck by its

fellow Democrats.

The temporary financing bill

BUDGET: Hint of Compromise as Vetoes Continue

Continued from Page 1 that Democrats in Congress ly in the Washington area, and have that wish — some of them has created a huge backlog of urgently — as well."

But the White House spokes-

man, Michael McCurry, said

the president was unruffled by

view was we wanted to keep the margin within the veto-safe

margin, which we did in both the House and the Senate, and

we're very comfortable with the result," Mr. McCurry said.

In rejecting the bill, Mr. Clin-

ton contended that it would

commit him to a Republican

budget that calls for huge

"bad for America," and Thurs-

day proposed an alternate no-

strings-attached bill to reopen

the government, but Republi-

government to curtail services

and to furlough 800,000 federal

The deadlock has forced the

with the government, especial- he said.

He said the plan would be

spending and tax cuts.

cans rejected that

"The president's strong

the Democratic defections.

optic cables. With any luck, within three or four years, they will bear fruit."

already the poorest continent risks ever four years, they will bear fruit."

cations, and, if they do it right, overnight benefits to Africa's economy could be into promote the network's development. mense. With widespread Internet access. scientists, teachers, students, and businessedge."

Right now, the World Bank is in a conmen in many African countries would be sortium of international aid donors whose able to communicate directly with each other for the first time.

"The idea is not just to drop a node into . But with telephone companies ranking the center city," said John Mack, an Ameras the most lucrative state cash cows in many countries, even officials who are well informed about Internet benefits are fearful people who are working on reforms of the continent's communications systems say.

applications for federal bene-

stem the backlog by unilaterally

ordering 52,000 workers back

to work on Monday to handle

applications for Social Securi-

Medicare and veterans ben-

The military spending bill

that Mr. Clinton plans to veto is \$7 billion bigger than he re-

quested. Congress passed the \$243 billion defense appropri-

ations measure Thursday, but the votes -- 270 to 158 in the

House and 59 to 39 in the Sen-

ate - were short of the two-

thirds' majorities that would be

has oo alternative but to sign

this bill," asserted Senator Ted

Stevens, the Alaska Republican

who is chairman of the Senate

Appropriations defense sub-

met White House concerns "to

the maximum extent possible.

mittee. Lawmakers have

Nonetheless, "the president

needed to override a veto.

Mr. Clinton has sought to

Chechen Rebels **Oppose Elections**

rebels warned the region's Moscow-installed leaders Friday that they would be punished

severity appropriate in Tass quoted Mr. Udugov, the wartime," the separatist press spokesman, Movladi Udugov, that Russian troops attacked said by telephone.

Mr. Udugov was quoting from a statement by rebel field commanders who met late

Thursday. "The meeting noted that kilometers (40 miles) southeast anyone who has the guts to orof the regional capital, Grozny, ganize elections to institutions on Thursday, killing one person of an alien state will be held and wounding three, he told personally responsible to the Chechen people," Mr. Udugov

envoy to Chechnya, Oleg Lobov, said that eight candidates were running in the region in the Russian parliamentary election on Dec. 17.

The pro-Moscow Chechen government approved plans Friday to hold the elections, and a parallel vote for the regional leadership, its press spokesman, Ruslan Martagov, said, according to the Itar-Tass press

Chechnya's Supreme Soviet is to decide whether to approve that really steams any Beithe government's decision on jinger; bicycle theft. the elections at a session scheduled for Sanurday, Tass said.

Teas of thousands of people

drive for independence led by Dzhokar Dudayev.

aratist positions Chechen settlements 42 times, including once from the air.

Russian aircraft attacked the village of Makazhoi, about 60



- Supporters of the anti-Western, fundamentalist Welfare Party cheering at an election rally in Istanbul on Friday. Turks will vote on Dec. 24.

President Boris N. Yeltsin's BELJING: Growing Pains Ring Out Underground

Continued from Page 1

surliness in the city to the clash between China's rural and urban populations as the couneconomic boom sends more and more surplus farm laborers to the cities.

The waidiren, which literally means "outsiders," are hlamed for rising incivility, petty crime. drug addiction and the offense

Recently, the Beijing Youth Daily criticized the lack of "civilized behavior" in the have been killed since Moscow suhways. The semiofficial. sent troops to the southern re- newspaper lamented the fate of

Wang, who tried to apprehend four youths who dashed past the ticket booth without paying.

them, 'Instead of paying, the youths hit Ms, Wang and pushed her down into the rail pit, where she was so seriously injured that she was unconscious for more than two hours," the newspaper said.

Landing in the rail pit, the newspaper pointed out, is a loathsome predicament because many passengers find it a con- year behind schedule. venient place to spit and throw

fulfilled aspirations. It costs only 6 cents to buy a ticket to ride from one end to the other or in a Wheo she caught up with continuous loop. The eastern part of the city has oo service; neither does the north or south.

The Beijing government has repeatedly suggested fare increases to finance operations and expansion, but the central government, fearing a negative reaction from the masses, has demurred. A modest expansioo Danish diplomat said. that began in 1993 is already a

A master plan that would more than triple the size of the Beijing's subway, 30 years current system gets reprinted in old, could be described as a line the newspapers every few gion almost a year ago to stop a a ticket collector named Ms. with a loop and a lot of un- years, but remains unfinanced.

FRANCE: Rebuffs Italians

Continued from Page 1

who are both NATO and Westem European Union allies," said the French Foreign Ministry spokesman, Jacques Rum-

Mr. Rummelhardt said that foreign ministers of the West-ern European Union, which provides the defense arm of the 15-natioo European Union's professed common foreign and security policy, had recognized the contribution to European defense made by the French and British ouclear deterrents at a meeting in Madrid only this past Tuesday.

The contradictory vote at the United Nations, be said, "does oot correspond to our idea of European solidarity."

Denmark's support for the UN measure also is not expected to help its bid to make former Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen the new secretary-general of the NATO alliance, which has been without a civilian chief since Willy Claes of Beigium resigned on

Mr. Chirac wants a NATO NATO: U.S. Rejection of Lubbers Tied to Bosnia secretary-general who can speak French and encourage other allies to do so. Mr. Ellemann-Jensen made a pitch in person to Foreign Minister Hervé de Charette here Mon-

According to both French and Danish officials, Mr. de Charette spoke French and Mr. Ellemann-Jensen spoke English during the meeting. They both understood each

ministers believe the Spanish

foreign minister, Javier Solana.

other perfectly," a hopeful Several people, including a former national security advis-Though Mr. Ellemanner, said that they had been dis-Jensen is still a declared canmayed by a speech given this year by Mr. Luhbers in San didate, many European foreign

Continued from Page 1.

have begun searching for a way private firms that do business to get this moving. It's no secret with the government

jointed quality.
This initial question mark was reinforced by some reports, later corrected, that Mr. Lubthe 12 years when none of the top Clintoo team was involved in U.S. foreign policy.

The problems for Mr. Lubbers had had legal problems, including an incident while prime minister when he helped bers started when word that he was the Europeans' choice reached the White House — by a company owned hy his family collect a debt from Kuwait.

coincidence, during a meeting with prominent outside defense Some fears were quickly dispelled: For example, the Kuwaiti episode had been aired by the Dutch Parliament and his closet. By this time, however, Mr.

Lubbers and Mr. Ellemanncould emerge as the choice if strongly religious cast and, the United States accepts him. even more disturbing, its disinterviews." In fact, both men bers. ...

had already asked for the meetings, but U.S. officials failed to dispel an impression that Washington was seeking to make a

point about who is the boss in NATO. In Washington, Mr. Lubbers's style contrasted with the strong military expertise of Mr. Ellemann-Jensen and perhaps also with his affable, direct manner.

"It was only when we talked therefore was not a skeleton in to the second guy that we really realized how ill-suited the first guy was," a U.S. official said. Clinton administration aides Jensen were on their way to said that they then advised the Washington for talks that in Eo- Dutch government oot to count rope were quickly dubbed "job on U.S. support for Mr. Lub-

Chechen A cease-fire was agreed in June, but a deal that foresaw disarmament in return for deas traitors if they went ahead militarization has been slow to with polling for Russia's par- take effect. elections next Rebels attacked Russian positions 30 times in the last 24 "Such actions will he treated hours, killing one serviceman as an act of betrayal of the and wounding four, Tass quot-Chechen people's national in- ed a Russian spokesman as sayterests and punished with all the ing Friday.

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Reuters JERUSALEM - Israeli officials played down remarks on Friday by the American sec-retary of state, Warreo M. Christopher, that Syria wanted to speed up peace talks with

"We've heard this before and nothing has happened," said one official. "It has to be

A U.S. mediator, Dennis B. Ross, is due in the region Saturday to attempt to do just that. Mr. Ross will check on the prospects of moving from mired military talks to broader, higher-level negotiations.

Mr. Christopher said in Osaka, Japan, that Damascus had told Washington it wanted to accelerate Syrian-Israeli negoti-

Since the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Nov. 4, Mr. Christopher said, "one of the positive elements is that the Syrians have taken this moment to say the track should be accelerated."

Israeli officials noted that Foreign Minister Farouk Shara of Syria said the same thing publicly on Nov. 8 in Damascus to the British foreign secretary, Malcolm Rifkind.

An Israeli cabinet minister, Yossi Beilin, who is close to the peace talks, said the Syrian stance had to be tested.

Asked by an Israeli radio interviewer if Syria's message to the United States was just words, Mr. Beilin said: "I admit my feelings are like yours Soldiers to Leave Bethlehem Earlier but I would never stand in the way of checking it in the most serious way.

"If the Americans sense that there is a change in Syria," he said, "Syria without doubt will find in Israel a partner to serious, certainly complicated, negotiations."

Washington had pinned its said Friday. hopes of Israeli-Syrian peace on Mr. Rabin, the politician with the best military credentials to convince Israelis that returning the captured Golan
Heights to Syria would not endanger their security. Mr. Rahin

Israel is redeploying troops from six West to Bethlehem, where tradition says Jesus was born, to attend the first Christmas under Palesdanger their security. Mr. Rahin

ment signed with the Palestine Liberation Ortinian rule, said his spokesman, Marwan returning the captured Golan talked of a staged Israeli pullback on the strategic plateau.

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AT THE DAMASCUS GATE - Palestinians leaving noon prayer services pass some Israeli soldiers in Jerusalem.

Israelis Now Criticize Secret Service

enactment

Israel's

newspapers.

paigns start, so this means redeployment will

conclude on December 26 from Ramallah and

The Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, will go

these areas follow in late January.

the villages near Hebron." be said.

agreed with the Israelis.

JERUSALEM --- An assassin's calm re-enactment of the killing of Prime Minister Rabin caused widespread criticism of Israel's ' Shin Bet secret service Friday.

"Unbelievable!" wrote Alex Fishman, military correspondent for the mass circulation Yedioth Ahronoth newspaper. "Rabin's back was completely uncovered," he said. "It was gross negligence, and even that is an understatement."

JERUSALEM — Israeli soldiers will leave

Bethlehem three days earlier than planned to

allow preparations for the first Christmas under

Arab control in 28 years, Palestinian officials

18th of December," said Major General Nasr

Yousef, head of Palestinian forces in Gaza and

the West Bank.

"The Israelis will leave Bethlehem on the

The seven-day Jewish mourn-ing period for Mr. Rabin, who was shot and killed at a peace rally on Nov. 4, and a statement from his widow that she did oot blame his bodyguards had mut-ed public criticism of the usually respected Shin Bet.

But Israeli tabloid newspapers attacked the secret service after the nation watched television coverage of his confessed assassin, Yigal Amir, as he showed the police on Thursday how he shot the prime minister. collecting information about

ganization in September to exteod Palestinian Kanafani. Mr. Arafat reportedly plans to invite

self-rule from Gaza and Jericho. Elections to a national leaders to Bethlehem.

Repeatedly and in slow-mo- Jewish militants, who like Mr. tioo, Israeli television showed Amir opposed Mr. Rabin's the 25-year-old Jewish student peace policy with the Palestiniapproaching from behind a po-In embarrassing detail, the liceman personifying Mr. Ra-

bin and "shooting" him twice. Two bodyguards had their tabloids recalled how the officer — who can be identified only by the initial "A" for sebacks to the killer in the recurity reasons - had an affair biggest-selling with "N," the wife of col-league "Z," whom "A" later Maariv and recruited into the secret ser-Yedioth Ahronoth, even turned personal in criticizing the head of a Shin Bel unit in charge of

Maariv quoted unidentified former Shin Bet bodyguards as saying their VIP protection branch had been run by "unsuitable directors" from other divisions and reporting "a deterioration in the quality of new necruits. Shin Bet, which combats

Palestinian Council to run most aspects of life in Palestinian guerrillas inside Israel and the occupied territories, The chief Palestinian negotiator, Ahmed Korei, confirmed that the timetable change had been has led a largely charmed existence in Israel. 'On the 28th of December, the election cam-

Maariv, for example, passed up a chance to publish informatioo nine years ago that Shin Bet agents had beaten to death captured in a 1984 bus hijackdefunct Hadashot, ran the news,

Their Belief in System ing with the expatriate com- will further drain the militant's

By Youssef M. Ibrahim New York Times Service

PARIS - The most astonishing thing in Algeria's presidential elections was the assertive mood displayed by voters who are seldom given the chance to have their say but who, wheo presented with it, never miss the chance to alter poliocal conventions.

Marching to polling stations in record numbers - 75 percent of the 16 million eligible voiers cast ballots — they demolished the myth of cynicism about their government. They also defied threats of murder from radical Islamists and igoored calls for boycott by Islamic and secularist opposition parties; in doing so, they cast doubts about whether these still

command any great following. Most important, in giving President Liamine Zeroual, 54. a former army general, the ex-pected mandate for another five nounced violence but advocatyears, they conceded that the ed a liberal Islamic govern-army has emerged as the ment, winning a surprising 25 stroogest political party in the

But the voters also asserted that the army must find a place of the Algerian Renewal Party. in the system for advocates of moderate Islam by giving the two candidates running under that banner nearly 29 percent of parliamentary elections, they

As for the generals, putting them in the spotlight can only pressure them to get on with the business of opeoing the political system and reforming the economy now that they can no longer hide in the shadows of one civil administration after another.

"The two things to retain from the Algerian elections are Salvation Front, which called killed six people and that the for a boycott, after deciding it is attack reflected internal probincapable of taking Algeria to a lems in the kingdom. new era," said Khirallah Khi- Ayatollah Ahmad rallah, the Arab affairs columnist of Al Hayat, the Londoobased Arabic daily,

Despite the ritualistic denuntwo Arab guerrillas who were ciations of fraud and charges of linked to Iran "for political exvote tampering, all indications ploitation.' ing. Another tabloid, the now- from witnesses as well as numerous news agency accounts forcing the resignation of Shin and foreign diplomatic ob- asked. Bet's chief, Avraham Shalom. servers are that Algerians, start-

By choosing Mr. Zeroual with a vote of 61 percent, the ment of a purist Muslim state. mandate granted the army, for whom the former general is the front man, is clear.

hold parliamentary and munic-

NEWS ANALYSIS

inal elections within a year. He said Friday that he would strive to build together, all of us, this Algeria and achieve all of our ambitions." The vote confers credibility

and legitimacy on Islamists, particularly Mahfoud Nehnah of the Hamas party, whom the government can no longer ig-nore. The 53-year-old Mr. percent of the vote. Another relatively little known liberal Islamist, Noureddine Boukrouh

won nearly 4 percent. If the two men can field candidates in future municipal and

munity in Europe this week, ranks. The message of their joint enthusiastically took part in the score is that the time has passed for radical Islamists who advocate a fight until the establish-

In Germany, Rabih Kahir. the senior figure of the Islamic Salvation From the main Is-But Mr. Zeroual ran on a lamic opposition party, which platform of being "president of was banned by the authorities all Algerians" and vowed to three years ago, asserted that three years ago, asserted that the elections "change nothing." He insisted that any solution must begin with the removal of the

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government. In fact, the results reflect considerable changes in the mood of the electorate since the 1991 parliamentary eleccions. which were annulled by the government.

Too much blood has been spilled and much of it by the Islamists. At teast 30,000 Atgerians have died since fundamentalists took up weapons 10 battle the government. But their divisions and the savagery of some of their armed factions in killing women and innocent civilians appear to have registered in this election.

In the 1991 parliamentary elections only 40 percent of eligible voters went to the polls and 40 percent voted for hard-

Cleric Denies Iran Role In Saudi Car-Bombing

TEHRAN - A senior Irathat people voted for stability nian cleric said Friday that it after concluding the regime is was wrong to accuse Iran of any not about to fall tomorrow, and role in the car-bombing in Sauthey voted against the Islamic di Arabia this past week that

Ayatoliah Ahmad Jannati. speaking at Friday prayers in Tehran, said that the explosion at the U.S. military training center in Riyadh was being

"Is anything that happens anywhere related to Iran?" he

"We absolutely oppose ten-

sion in the region," he said in remarks broadcast on radio. The attack, he said, was "just the consequence of American preseoce," adding, "Do not ac-

Iran has denounced hints that it had a possible role in the carbomhing, which killed five Americans and an Indian, An Iranian Foreign Ministry

cuse others.

spokesman "dismissed as seditious the recent allegations of the U.S. ambassador in Riyadh. He said Iran has no connection whatsoever with Monday's

bomb blast in the Saudi capital," IRNA, the official press

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For people who make decisions every day, access to precise and comprehensive information on international economy and markets is vital. They need the most reliable source of information available. In France, they read Les Echos, France's leading business newspaper.

NEWSPAPER.



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Keep on Vetoing

a second temporary spending bill, thereby sbutting down most government offices for at least another day. The president should keep oo vetoing these bills until the Republicans stop trying to trap him into reneging on every important promise he has made to voters over the

The temporary spending bill would keep government offices open while Congress and the president negotiate permaneot speeding bills for discretionary programs. To gain the upper hand in these future negociations, the Republicans are attaching an insidious rider as a condition for granting President Clinton temporary authority to spend. He would have to agree to a budget plan that would eliminate the deficit within seven years.

The rider might sound innocent, since Mr. Clinton once offhandedly conceded that the budget could be balanced within that time. But be understands that there are only two ways he could meet the Republican timetable. He could renounce the tax cuts that he and the Republicans have waved before voters. Or he could adopt a spending plan that would mirror the Republicans', with marginally softer cuts in social services and marginally larger cuts in defense. His two choices would be political suicide or a conversion to Gingrichian Republicanism.

Mr. Clinton can stand firm against the Republican boldup because the consequences of a government sbutdown are unlikely to be severe at least for the next

President Bill Clinton promises to veto few days and perhaps not for a few weeks. For starters, enotlement programs, like Medicare and Medicaid, are unaffected by these squabbles over discretiooary spending. Entitlement programs will oot change until Congress passes a budget reconciliation bill that the president agrees to sign.

Things are not altogether bleak on discretionary programs, either. The Republicans are feeling enough pressure from angry voters that they are now planning to start up government offices piecemeal, passing bills that would provide temporary money for the national parks, passport offices, Social Security offices and other services that cater directly to the public. They are also expected to finish work on more of the 13 permanent spending bills, only four of which have been signed into law, that finance discrecionary programs.

There are places for Mr. Clinton to compromise to get government up and running. For example, he could meet the Republicans halfway in terms of the maximum cuts that a temporary spending bill would make in programs. like voluntary national service, that he wants to preserve but that Congress has voted to abolish. But the seven-year trap built into the bill Congress passed late Thursday allows no room for compromise. The alternative piecemeal government operations — is not ideal, but it is much better than a wholesale presidential betrayal of the voters who put him into office.

Roh Not Alone

South Korea's former President Roh Tae Won oow sits in a private cell in Seoul's detendon bouse, awaiting prosecution in the biggest political corruption case in his country's history. His arrest on Thursday was a test of the government's commitment to cleaning up Korean poliocs, which have long been infected with bribery and other corrupt practices. But Mr. Roh should not have to pay the price alone for a scandal that reached deep into

the Korean political and business worlds. Mr. Roh acknowledges responsibility for managing a \$650 million political slush fund, but he claims no memory of which business tycoons contributed to it and which politicians benefited from it. Investigators believe that during Mr. Roh's presidency, huge public contracts were awarded on the basis of contributions to the fund and that the money was divided among the major Korean political parties, as well as corrupt individuals.

Although Mr. Roh belped steer his country toward democracy, his career reflects some of the worst traditions of Korean politics. He participated in the 1979 military mutiny that shoved aside a weak democratic regime, and he commanded troops in the 1980 massacre of corrupt politics, and he must not be the civilians in Kwangju. But in 1987 he only one punished. spurned a chance to take over the pres-

idency through elections rigged in his favor by the military. Instead, be submitted to free elections. That belped calm the violent political unrest engulfing Korea's cides and campuses.

Mr. Roh's presideocy was marked both by corruption and an opening of Korean life, including a freer press and a chance for former dissideots like the current president, Kim Young Sam, to reenter political life.

Mr. Rob has oow become the most prominent casualty of the reforms he helped set in motion. Others may follow, including perhaps the chief opposition leader, Kim Dae Jung, who acknowledges having received funds from Mr. Roh, and possibly even President Kim. The president's party concedes it received some of the slush money, which may have been used in the 1992 presidential campaign. But Mr. Kim denies any personal involvement. Oppositioo deputies in Parliament are right to demand that judicial authorities press ahead with their investigations.

If Koreans are to have faith in their new democratic system, the investigations and prosecutions must go forward. Mr. Roh was not the only practitioner of

-THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Accept Turkey

The 15 governments of the European Union, meaning to anchor Turkey to the West, invited it into the European customs union — a step toward the full Unioo membership the Turks crave. But the 600plus undisciplined individual members of the European Parliament get to ratify the invitation. The Parliament's decision, due on Dec. 14, is the stuff of which the post-Cold War future is being made.

Socialists in the European Parliament

gagged at Turkey's application on account of its poor human rights performance in the course of suppressing an armed Kurdish separatist movement. Reform first, the Parliament said. The Turks responded with a "democratization program," amending the military-written constitudon and starting to release what seem to be mostly political prisoners jailed under an anti-terrorism statute. Of six jailed Kurdish members of the Turkish Parliament, two were released and four allowed to petidon the European Court of Human Rights. The American journalist Aliza Marcus of Reuters, accused absurdly of inciting racial hatred, was acquitted for 'lack of evidence and intent.'

Now the argument in the European Parliament has shifted. A human rights lobby argues that reform is cosmetic and reversible and that premature reward would remove Turkey's incendve to keep improving. If Turkey's customs union bid is not to be rejected, the new argument goes, it should at least be delayed.

Moving the goalposts, as this is called. seems to us here particularly unfair and counterproductive. The American-educated prime minister, Tansu Ciller, asserts that the country's secular Muslim outlook would come under even heavier pressure from resident Islamic fundamentalists if

W

Europe were to deny Turkey credit for

is numbing to contemplate. She's right. Turkey has a tough Kurdish problem and a tendency to repression; it has a good way to go on human rights. But it makes no sense to bumiliate, rather than to encourage, Turkey when

the nation is trying.

Finally, absorption in Europe is the best guarantee that Turkey, a friend and ally of high strategic value, will become progressively more democratic and prosperous - that it will be in the West and of the West as well.

--- THE WASHINGTON POST.

Other Comment

Ulster Smoke Screens

Since the IRA cease-fire commenced in the late summer of 1994 the British have created various smoke screens which permitted them to avoid any meaningful policy changes or developments. There have been a series of arguments about semantics, about the concept of "permanence," about decommissioning

of arms. Now another smoke screen is in the process of creation. The British, through their poliocal surrogates in Belfast including the Alliance Party. are floating the possibility of creating a unionist-dominated assembly in the full knowledge that this will be opposed forcefully by both Sinn Fein and the Social Demo-



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Budget Brouhaha Underscores the World's Anxiety

WASHINGTON — Symbolism run arnok: That is how Washington must have lonked to the rest of the world as the Clinton White House and the Gingrich-Dole Congress paralyzed each other and big chunks of the federal government this past week to score political points.

At home, the conflict resembled a snarling arm-wrestling contest between straitjacketed, fast-talking con artists more than the much predicted train wreck. President Bill Clinton and the Republicans vowed not to quit until the other cried uncle. Americans were invited to choose Clintonesque compassion and justice, or Gingrichian frugality and radical innovation, as national totems.

But different symbols will stick in the mind of a global audience already fearful that the United States has little time, declining energy and less money to invest in world affairs. President Clinton's decision to stay home and fight the image war along the Potomac rather than go to an economic conference in Japan is a revealing admission of American global leadership beld hostage by unrestrained domestic conflict.

Call it Bush's revenge. Or life imitating

In November 1991, George Bush panicked when the Republicans lost the U.S. this notional organization and its vague icked when the Republicans lost the U.S.

By Jim Hoagland

Senate race in Pennsylvania. He. too. postponed a trip to Japan to look after domestic business (i.e., politics). When he made his belated trip to Tokyo in the middle of Asia's bitter winter, his laptop accident on the Japanese prime minister began the

inexorable slide toward electoral defeat. So we can be sure that the adviser Dick Morris will pack the Maalox if and when Mr. Clinton reschedules Japan. But other consequences of the cancellation will be harder to deal with as his presidency moves into a phase in which international cooperation is vital to his ambitions.

The decision not to attend the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting in Osaka is a symbolic setback for a president who has repeatedly emphasized the importance of international trade, and of Asia, for America's economic well-being. The budget battle made Mr. Clinton acknowledge that interdependence begins at home, aloog Pennsylvania Avenue.

Don't get me wrong. Mr. Clinton does not lose a great deal by skipping the APEC meeting. He has been oversold by his trade officials on the importance of

By A. M. Rosenthal

inently expendable.

But the last-minute cancellation is a damaging new blow to the Japanese govemment, which is reeling under an economic depression and a collapse in national confidence and political cohesion. A Pentagon effort to breathe new life into the U.S.-Japan security relationship with the Clinton trip also goes by the boards.

The image of an American president putting aside international commitments to deal with a bizarre domesoc dispute over temporary spending authorization measures will linger abroad long after National Park Service rangers and Gov-ernment Printing Office shipping clerks have returned to work. It nearly symbolizes a crowding out of the international ethos from the American mind by pressing domestic disputes -- confusing the urgeot with the important.

A year after the Republican capture of Capitol Hill, it is the newcomers' lack of interest in the rest of the world, not their lack of knowledge, that increasingly worries foreign officials and observers.

Asked the other day why he had come to Washington now, Wolfgang Schäuble, majority leader in the Bundestag and second only to Chancellor Helmut Kohl in

day, but not now, thank you. If the trip were only about APEC, it would be embat it was in part because fewer and fewer senators and representatives come

to Germany" these days,
Mr. Schäuble spent much of his time on Capitol Hill talking about the proposed peace settlement in Bosnia and the rising fear in Europe that Congress will block U.S. participation in a peace implemen-tation force. "Imagine the effect that would have on Moscow, which has just agreed in very difficult negotiations to have Russian troops serve under American command. That would be a dangerous development," he said afterward,

European leaders will play an impor-tant role in describing the stakes of a Bosnian peace operation to Congress. President Clinton can count on them to stress the importance of continuing the half-century of international cooperation and friendships that made victory in the Cold War possible.

But, increasingly, the world's internationalists have to wonder it they can count on the American president. After this train wreck/arm-wrestling contest, he looks more like Gulliver fied to the ground by a thousand Lillipuoan ropes of domestic woes than the boss of the world's only superpower.

Who's on First? The U.S. Public Frankly Couldn't Care Less

NEW YORK — Ask me the lineup of the Yankees team when I was a boy reading baseball stories in the papers, daydreaming of actually getting money for a ticket. I will march around with you, base to base, then the outfield and back to the mound. Now, ask me for the lineup since the baseball strike.

Do the poliocians responsible for the shutdown of U.S. federal offices, for the whole disgraceful exhibition of governmental mismanagement by Congress and the White House, understand that they are paying the same price as baseball players and owners - the loss of public esteem, respect and loyalty?

I don't think so, oot in the closed Washingtoo environment where the air grows intellectu-ally stifling as officials, politicians, journalists and lobbyists breathe only their own impressions, myths and certitudes, in

But it isn't baseball, it is our nancial affairs."

national life. It is not only themselves they are damaging but the rest of America. The government they make lonk like a car rusting

at the side of a road is ours. So is the lovely clockwork Constitution being so grievously mishandled. It is built around checks and balances, but surely its writers did oot intend that legislature and executive should keep pounding at each other, freezing government, until one surrendered and meanwhile the devil with the public.

The branches of government were supposed to bold each other's power in check, for the very purpose of reaching acceptable agreement, not preventing it.

Most of Washington talks and writes about it all as if it were some kind of game. Occasiooally, somebody states reality, like Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin: "This is no way for a great nation to manage its fi-

Or for a small nation, any one of the United States, or a corporation, village or corner deli.

Look at them in Congress and the White House, using the financial deadlock to give themselves more power now and at election time. That is the poliocal equivalent of misusing company assets to fatten their bank accounts.

The Republicans had the right to pass whatever legislation their majorities allowed. But since they do not have the votes to override a veto, they have no right to act as if the veto check means nothing and their job is to outwait and out-bully the president.

The Republicans' case is weakened by the fact that they passed legislation that would deeply affect the poorest segments of the population - without examining how deeply. Those are people who will hurt, oot car parts to be tossed away if they are ruined by new machinery.

case against what the Republi-Medicaid. Both need overhauling, particularly Medicare. But Republicans have not proved that their Medicare plan will give patients more choice, a key statement that looks like baloney on

As for Mr. Clinton, for a long time after last year's Republican victory he seemed happy just to comment on what they were doing rather than take the trouble of presenting a credible Democratic plan of action.

the slicing board.

He had his clear shot at healthcare reform, if we need it, he and his wife, but they blew it. As Hillary Rodham Clinton might say, woulda coulda sboulda.

The Republicans are singing

his melody about the need for bealth-care reform, but the Clintoo failure allowed them to write their own lyrics.

All we usually hear about Republican leadership is Gingrich, Gingrich, Gingrich, Senator Bob

erced movements as the parties to

the conflict urge selective reset-

In September, the UNHCR

protested to the Croatian and

forced return of refugees to

Bosnia and Herzegovina, in vi-

olation of international refugee

treaties. Also in September,

Radovan Karadzic, leader of the

Bosnian Serbs, ordered displaced

Serbs to leave Banja Luka and

resettle in designated municipal-

ities or face losing accommoda-

Repatriation should not be pro-

moted as a solution for refugees

and displaced persons until the ba-

don, food and health care.

President Bill Clinton has a Dole has either been squeezed out most of the time or was decans want to do to Medicare and liberately playing second fiddle, not the best chair in the orchestra for a candidate for president. He seems to be moving up in the orchestra oow.

If after this exhibition of American government tech-oiques the United States still has any international leadership credibility, it is because the other nations recognize our power, certainly not our intelligence or capability.

Speaking of leadership: Any clown of a company executive who could do nothing better than just closing down the property would be thrown out.

We cannot send home the clowns, not at the momeot. But the White House and Congress - our chosen leaders - might have had the courtesy to include themselves in the pay furloughs. Yes, sir, and if my aunt had

wheels she would be a trolley

The New York Times.

Planners Must Consider the Plight of Balkans' Displaced Millions

NEW YORK — As diplomatic efforts proceed toward a possue has emerged in the talks betweeo the parties - arrangements for the oearly 4 million

people displaced by the war. This vast homeless population, spread from Stockholm to Belhard-won gains made at Europe's own insistence. The potential strategic fallout grade, is composed of people in a wide variety of circumstances, including victims of brutality by erstwhile neighbors, members of mixed families unable to return to "ethnically pure" territories and evaders of military service in a war they regard as immoral.

The sometimes optimisoc tenor of the negotiations is belied by the reality on the ground. Not only have people been ousted from their homes, but recent reports of mass murder and brutality have perme-ated the media. Can the internacional community realistically ask these victims of massacres and atrocioes to return and live together? Ask a young Serbian woman violently expelled from her home by Muslim-Croatian forces if sbe would be able to live in peace with Muslims and Croats.

By Arthur C. Helton

bian soldiers if he woold play ball with Serbian children. As highlevel political discussions take place far from the killing fields, the eyes of the traumatized seem to tell a different story.

The fact that refugees are a central consideration in the negooations is, of course, not surprising; a basic objective of the war was to cause displacement to create ethnically "pure" jurisdicdons. Repatriation under these circumstances will necessarily present complex poliocal issues and could establish important precedents for international action in the future.

In September, representatives of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia negotiated a set of "agreed basic principles," rec-ognizing the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republika Srpska. These new entides agreed "to adopt and adhere to normal internacional human

movement and enable displaced persons to repossess their bomes or receive just compensation." The parties have agreed to establish intergovernmental commissions for displaced persons and refugees, as well as a human rights commission, to implement these commitments.

In the implementation of a repatriation plan, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees is to take the lead. UNHCR insists 'the voluntary oature of return must be fully respected" and is committed to monitoring the situadon of returnees "both in the majority and minority areas."

But genuine individual choice may be difficult to exercise in the face of political imperatives. Also, for some, repatriation may be infeasible --- for example, for people in mixed marriages and for those who have been persecuted atrociously. In such cases, third-country resettlement and local integra-

oon schemes will be necessary.
Ominously, UNHCR acknowl-

sic dignity and security of individuals are respected. Specifically, the conflict should have abated and attendant risks, such as land mines, should have been minimized. In even more elemental terms. respect for human rights and the right to freely choose a place of Blame Big Oil as Well as Nigeria Junta

residence are paramount pre-condidons to encouraging return.
Objective information sources must be established to enable prospective returnees to make informed decisions. Effective confideoce-building measures will be crucial to overcoming fear,

should be a joint effort of all Tribune.

edges the likelihood of "further capable organizations - the UN efforts proceed toward a possible settlement of the conflict in the former Yugoslavia, a key is
Ask a Muslim boy who rights standards, including the obligation to allow freedom of are well-founded. Receoutly, there the former Yugoslavia, a key is
Ask a Muslim boy who rights standards, including the obligation to allow freedom of are well-founded. Receoutly, there have been several reports of cozations - and bilateral donors.

Crucial implementation details are being discussed at the "proxilement to strengtheo their politimity talks" under way in Dayical positions when the final maps ton, Ohio. These should include the structure and acovities of the commissions on human rights as well as refugees and displaced persons.

Bosnian governments about the Independent experts and ooogovernmental organization representatives should have significant roles in these commissions, providing advice or monitoring compliance to minimize the risks of human rights violations and further conflict.

As currently configured, inter-national institutions are ill-equipped to deal with "post-emer-gency" situations involving solu-dons for forcibly displaced people. Humanitarian relief should lead to development, but policial will is often lacking to ensure sustainable

physical development. Perhaps more important of all. the immediate protection of peo-ple forced to flee must lead to systematic respect for human rights and encouragement of the evolution of open sociedes. An extraordinary effort will be re-quired to realize the perhaps nowdistant dream of a muldethnic Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The writer, director of migrosuspicion and hatred.

As the UNHCR states in its linearity institute, contributed this comtion programs at the Open Society ment to the International Herald

preliminary plan, repatriation

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

Japanese Ministers met Saturday [Nov. 16] at the Bank of England where a cheque for about five million sterling was handed by the former to the latter, this heing the supplementary indemnity paid by China to Japan for the evacuation of the Liao Tong Peninsula. Thirteeo millions are now lodged in the Bank. Eventually, large payments will un-

1920: U.S. Poison Gas

WASHINGTON --- The War Department has not entered into a pact being arranged by European nations with the intention of eliminating poison gas as a weapon of warfare, and as long as the abolition of gas as a means of war is

will continue to perfect its army in the use of this powerful offensive weapon. General Amos A. Fries. chief of the Chemical Warfare Service, is perfecting a solidification of poison gas which can be carried in the pockets of soldiers.

1945: Culture and Peace LONDON - In the concluding

session of the United Nations Ed-

ucational, Scientific and Cultural Conference yesterday [Nov. 16] scientific and cultural relations of peoples of the world.

and environmental activist, on cratic and Labour Party. widely disputed murder charges. -The Sunday Business Post (Dublin). Criocs should also consider the

attitude of foreign oil companies in Nigeria --- especially Shell and, to a lesser extent, Chevron — which Mr. Saro-Wiwa charged with profiting from the government's repression of his Ogoni people and

But attendon should not focus on-

ly on the junta, which oo Nov. 10

executed Mr. Saro-Wiwa, a writer

other minority groups living in the oil-producing Niger Delta. In his 1992 book "Genocide in Nigeria: The Ogoni Tragedy," Mr. Saro-Wiwa despaired of his country because, be wrote, its rulers had "hearts of stone and the brains of millipedes; because Shell is a multinational company with the ability to crush whomever it wisbes, and because the petroleum resources of the Ogoni

serve everyone's greed. Western countries have recalled ambassadors, and the 52member British Commonwealth has suspended Nigeria and threat-

ened it with expulsion. But they evidently have not considered one accon that would put real pressure on the governBy Rob Nixon

NEW YORK — The interna-tional outcry over the exe-cution of Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight other political dissidents in which earns 97 percent of Nige-Nigeria has rightly brought conria's export income. demnation of the military regime. The United States imports 45

> rope 40 percent, giving both enor-Most of the oil is extracted from regions where the Ogoni and other persecuted groups live. For more than 30 years, oil spills have tainted their croplands and water,

and burned-off natural gas has

percent of Nigeria's oil and Eu-

fouled their air. Shell has benefited from General Abacha's repressive actions. His notorious Mobile Police Force put down protests by the Ogoni and neighboring groups who inhabit the Niger Delta. After a rally of hundreds of thousands in Ogoniland in January 1993, the police razed several villages; hundreds of Ogonis were killed and tens of thousands displaced.

Shell has sought to distance itself from such atrocities, saying it has no power over a sovereign country's policies. But the Ogoni say it has ignored their appeals for a share of oil revenues and better environmental safeguards.

Nigerian activists and environmeotal groups have urged a boycott of Shell. But they should also consider the strategy pursued by indigenous people in Ecuador's ment of General Sani Abacha: ap-plying sanctions on Nigerian oil, 1993, 77 Amazonian Indians filed oil-rich Oriente rain forest. In tributed this comment to The New

a \$1.5 billion class action suit against Texaco, charging that the company's oil spills poisoned the region's drinking water, soil and crops. The suit, filed in New York

state, is pending. Some of the charges made in the Texaco case echo complaints that Mr. Saro-Wiwa made against

After the unrest in 1993, Shell ceased operating in Ogoniland, but it continues to produce half of all Nigeria's crude oil output. At the same time, a number of oil companies, including Texaco, Chevroo and Mobil, are expanding their operations in Nigeria. And Shell itself is proceeding with plans to invest in a \$3.8 billion liquefied natural gas plant there.

The cancellation by the World Bank's private-sector arm, the Interoational Finance Corp., of a planned \$100 million investment in the natural gas program was an important symbolic gesture. But it will have limited impact.

West use its economic leverage to bold the Abacha regime to account for its actions? The writer, a South African journalist, is the author of "Homelonds, Harlem and Hol-

1895: China's Requital

LONDON - The Chinese and

doubtedly be made here for military and naval supplies, but these payments will be gradual.

The question remains: Will the

lywood: South African Culture and the World Beyond." He connot unanimous among the great Powers of the world, America

the constitution was adopted by delegations from forty-four of the United Nations. The constitution. taking cognizance of the fact that wars begin in the minds of men through ignorance of each other's ways and that the war just ended was made possible by denial of democratic principles of dignity, equality and mutual respect of men, sets forth to create an organization to advance international peace through educational,

By Patrick E. Tyler

BELING - China and the United States made progress Friday in resuming a program of high-level military contacts, agreeing to an exchange of visits of their top military officers next year.

But American defense officials visiting here this week reported that during private conversations they encountered trenchant rhetoric and signs of unrelenting determination by Beijing's mil-itary and civilian leaders to undermine the political rule of the president of Taiwan, Lee Teng-hui.

In recent days, China has restated its intention to use all means, including military intimidation and force if necessary, to end what Beijing considers a drive by Mr. Lee for Taiwan independence, though Mr. Lee insists he is seeking only greater international recogni-

As three days of talks ended, the Pentagon was receiving reports that China had begun a new military exercise off its southeastern coast near Taiwan, military officials here said. It follows a Taiwanese drill earlier in the week designed to demonstrate the island's ability to repulse an invasion.

The visit of the U.S. delegation led by the assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs, Joseph S.

remitting military tension across the Taiwan Strait that could lead to another rupture in relations and, perhaps, mil- Taiwan "are not helpful.

itary conffict. The Chinese have a military operation starting right now," an official traveling with Mr. Nye said, "and what is clear is that China is brushing off since the 1950s. This is an issue we are very concerned about.

Mr. Nye and officials traveling with bim pointed out that China and the United States are improving the level of communication in some areas, but on Taiwan, "There was no give whatso-

ever," one official said.
"Every single person referred to Taiwan and their point was that every Chinese is united on this question. the official said.

Chinese military leaders, during extensive closed donr talks with the American delegation, engaged in some "sub-tle exploration" of what U.S. policy responses would be in the event of a military crisis over Taiwan, one official said. But the American officials refused to discuss U.S. contingency planning.
"We stand for peaceful resolution of the area for all nations.

Nye Jr., demonstrated that the general recovery in United States-China relations from a low point last summer is conference at the U.S. Embassy. Any use of force by China against Taiwan use of force by China against Taiwan 'would be a serious mistake" and, he added, continued military exercises near

Mr. Nye announced that Chinese defense minister, General Chi Haotian, would visit Washington next year and that General John M. Shalikashvili, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. military plans and operational contin-gencies that they haven't thought about Mr. Nye met with General Chi on Friwould pay a reciprocal visit to Beijing. day, but his longest discussions were held with Lieutenant General Xiong-Guangkai, an assistant chief of the general staff of the People's Liberation Army and a senior adviser on Taiwan to

the Communist Party leadership. General Chi had originally been scheduled to visit the United States last summer, but the trip was postponed as part of the rupture in diplomatic re-lations after a White House decision to allow President Lee to make a private visit to the United States in June.

Commenting on other developments, Mr. Nye praised China's pledge last August that it would settle its territorial dispute over the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea in accordance with the Law of the Sea convention, which guarantees freedom of navigation through

Backs APEC's **Business Role**

OSAKA, Japan - Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher, breaking with the view of an administration colleague. said Friday that economics, not security, should be the focus of the Asia-Pacific

group APEC.
"I think it has a great future as an organization to facilitate economic development, coordinate economic development and to ensure there is a liberalized trading system in this region." be said in an interview. 'In the short term that will be its primary goal.' Mr. Christopher added that discus-

propriately handled by the smaller Asciation of South East Asian Nations. Mr. Christopher is in Osaka for the annual meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, which the United States has sought to promote as a major Pacific institution.

sion of security issues was more ap-

Earlier this week, Defense Secretary William J. Perry said it was time to expand APEC from an economic group into a security alliance, despite a longstanding taboo about discussing military issues in the organization. Since its establishment in 1989, APEC has stayed away from defense issues, fearing that the subject could break up the already unwieldy 18-member group.

Is Held With Roh in Scandal SEOUL - A close aide of former President Roh Tae Woo's followed him into jail Friday in the huge corruption scandal rocking South Korea, and prosecutors said "four or

would be next Lee Hyun Won, who ran the coontry's intelligence agency and later exposed Mr. Roh's slush-fund secrets, joined his one-time boss in the same detention center as prosecutors arrested him on several charges, including bribery.

leading businessmen

The Yonhap news agency said prison officials were making sure that the two did not run into each other while staying in the Seoul Detention House in southern Kyonggi Province.

Mr. Lee was arrested after being questioned by state prosecutors for more than 50 hours over his role in managing some of Mr. Roh's \$654 million slush

"In the eyes of the public, Mr. Lee may seem to be fol-lowing his ex-boss into detention as a bodyguard," Yonhap said. "But prison officials say the two have been put into dif-

ferent wards to prevent them from running into each other." It was Mr. Lee who stepped forward a few days after an opposition lawmaker accused Mr. Roh of secretly building up millions during his office to confess that he had personally

(\$63 million) slush fund for the former president. A prosecution official said Mr. Lee, once Mr. Roh's top bodyguard and later director of the Agency for the National Security Planning, was suspected of receiving 2.65 billion won from bosiness magnates in return for giving them favors in

Seoul Ex-Intelligence Chief

lucrative projects.
Mr. Roh, 62, was arrested and imprisoned Thursday, charged with taking \$310 million in bribes for lucrative government projects from the country's top 30 business houses, roughly half the amount be has confessed to massing.

His son, Roh Jae Hun, who on Friday visited the former head of state in his solitary cell in the austere gray brick Seoul Detention House, reported that his fa-ther was well and that he had had a "good night's sleep."

"After cutting myself off from the world, I feel comfortable," Jae Hun quoted his fa-

ther as saying.
Meanwhile, Yonhap quoted sources from the party of President Kim Young Sam, who condoned the investigation into managed a 48.5 billion won the former head of state, as saying the party had received \$130

million from the slush fund. President Kim, who is in Osaka attending an economic summit, has denied receiving money from Mr. Roh to finance his successful 1992 election campaign, but conceded that his party

might have.
On Friday, the president called the arrest of Mr. Rob "an unfortunate incident in the history of Korea that must not be to wipe out business-political corruption.

A prosecutor said that "four or five business tycoons are likely to be arrested in con-

nection with Roh's cache. Yonhap said as many as 15 executives might be indicted, but business circles predicted that most would receive suspended sentences or be freed on

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Allies Coordinate on North Korea

OSAKA, Japan — Japan, South Korea and the United States said Friday they would step up efforts to coax North Korea away from its nuclear arms ambitions,

Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher and Foreign Ministers Yohei Kono of Japan and Gong Ro Myung of South Korea said they would "maintain close consultation" to strengthen cooperation

over North Korea's nuclear program.

"In this context, they decided to hold the first senior-level meeting next January," the ministers said in a statement at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum. (AFP)

Sri Lanka Offers Rebels a Pardon

COLOMBO — Government planes dropped thousands of leaflets over Jaffna city Friday, offering amnesty to Tamil rebels who surrender to government forces that are just outside the guerrilla stronghold, the military said.

But no rebels had taken up the offer by late Friday, the officials said. The leaflets said the pardon was intended to avert bloodshed when the military invades the city next

Thousands of government soldiers are only a kilometer outside the city and are expected to attack it soon. An unknown number of rebels are still in Jaffna, whose civilian population was largely evacuated two weeks ago.

Indonesia Criticizes Portugal

OSAKA, Japan - The Indonesian foreign minister, Alì Alatas, accused Portugal on Friday of encouraging East Timorese students to seek asylum at foreign embassies in

Mr. Alatas, attending the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation summit meeting, also said Portugal was stalling UN-mediated talks with Indonesia and East Timorese political factions.

Five East Timorese climbed into the French Embassy in Jakarta on Thursday, the fourth such incident in two months. Officials said they left Friday for Portugal, East Timor's former colonial ruler. A day earlier, 21 East Timorese who

Noting that the embassy entries are "becoming a pattern," Mr. Alatas said: "You can go away, then. I mean, good riddance. If people want to leave Indonesia, they are free to leave Indonesia. We are not deriving any pleasure from this, but it is getting a little bit boring." (AP)

U.S. Sailor Sentenced for Rape

TOKYO — A U.S. military court sentenced a sailor to eight years in prison Friday for raping a girl under 16 and taking part in an indecent assault on a female sailor, a report said. Both victims were American.

The sailor raped the girl, a U.S. military dependent, in a park on Sasebo Naval Base in southern Japan, the Pacific Stars and Stripes reported.

He was also part of a group of four sailors that assaulted a woman in a barracks room Aug. 7, one day after he committed

the rape, the report said. Seaman Apprentice Samuel J. Southworth, 19, of Murray, Utah, was found guilty on Nov. 3 of rape, indecent acts, drunk and disorderly conduct and destruction of military property,

the daily reported. He was sentenced Friday to eight years in jail, dishonorable discharge and forfeiture of all pay. (AP)

India and China Improve Ties

NEW DELHI - India and China have pledged to strengthen economic ties and resolve a three-decade border dispute, the Indian Foreign Ministry said Friday during a visit by a senior Chinese official.

"No force can separate India and China," the ministry quoted Qiao Shi, the head of China's Parliament, as telling the leader of India's lower house late Thursday.

The five-day visit by Mr. Qiao, a member of the Chinese Politburo, is the first to India by the chairman of the National

People's Congress.

Hanoi Wants Aid for Returnees

HANOI — Vietnam said Friday that it would not allow illegal emigrés to be returned home against their will unless the Vietnamese government received international aid to ease

A document issued by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet codifies requirements that Vietnam had already been raising in talks with governments and relief agencies seeking to deport Vietnamese refugees.

Vietnam fears that the returnees will place an additional burden on the country's weak social welfare services.

It recently agreed to accept 40,000 Vietnamese nationals from Germany only after Bonn promised \$140 million in aid. The United Nations and international aid groups also have funded the return of thousands of Vietnamese boar people from countries in Southeast Asia.

Hostage Near Death in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India — Separatist guerrillas holding four Westerners hostage in Kashmir said Friday that one of the captives could die "any time," and urged his family to come

to the Himalayan region as soon as possible.

"The sick hostage's condition is deteriorating and he can die at any time, for which the Indian government will be responsible," AI Faran militants said in a statement released in the summer capital of India's Jammu and Kashmir state. The militant did not identify the hostage.

s the representative of Turkey's private sector, • we fully support the timely implementation of the Customs Union between Turkey and the European Union.

We believe that the forthcoming elections in Turkey should not delay the process of ratification by the European Parliament.

Any delay could be negatively interpreted within Turkey, thus damaging the momentum of goodwill between Turkey and the European Union.

We therefore urge the European Parliament to give its assent in December 1995 thus strengthening the relations between Turkey and the European Union.



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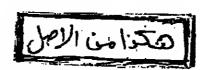
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THE STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF T

The Aristocrats of Manual Labor

By Barry James International Herald Tribun

ROYES, France — They built the Gothic cathedrals of France. They erected the Eiffel Tower. They rethe pyramid at the Louvre and helped construct the Caracas Métro.

Marrying innovation to centuries of tradition, France's "Compagnons," or 'companions," the aristocrats of manual labor, face the post-industrial age with growing numbers and confidence.

Every year, hundreds of young aspirants set off on a five-year "Tour of France" 10 way, they find lodging and teaching in houses built and run by their orders. Older 'companions" find them jobs and watch over them at work. Symbols, songs, stories and secret rituals preserved since the cathedral-building age help mold them into humanists as well as workers.

Toward the end of his training - it is always a he — the aspirant must devote more than 1,000 hours to creating a "masterpiece, " a virtuoso display of skill to show off all he has learned. But this is not enough to be accepted, since the movement is a fraternity rather than a club of technicians. Compagnons also have to prove that they are good teachers and loyal friends.

Zealous of their secrets and their skills, the various brotherhoods of free workers that began in the Middle Ages have historically been bitter rivals. They split after the Reformation, and often used their symbolic staves to thwack each others' heads. They split again after World War II, some believing that others had been too cozy with the wartime Vichy regime.

Today, rivalries between the three families of Companions are fading — to such an exteot that they have pooled their resources for a joint exhibition of their masterworks and customs at the National Museum of Popular Arts and Traditions in Paris.

Compagnons never put their affiliation on A staircase created in 1991 by an their visiting cards nor sign their works, because they know that whatever they make is clearly recognizable to other Compagnons. They have little written history because they were often persecuted by the church and therefore burned their records

It is perhaps easier to describe the Compagnons by saying what they are not rather than what they are. To quote the late Jean Bernard, who helped revive the movement during World War II, it is "oot a chain of lodgings for young workers, nor a disguised trade schools, oor a pseudo-union, nor a account on the humanism of the carpenter. the House of Tools in Troyes.

means of achieving success, nor a closed elite. "It is the convergent point between two generations — those who are committed to transmit knowledge and those committed to receive it. It is two generations united."

France's more than 20,000 Compagnons stored the Statue of Liberty, built hardly know what it means to be out of work in a country where unemployment is a Tour of France, this encompasses anywhere cruel reality for nearly 12 percent of the active population. Many go on to run companies or create their own. Furthermore, the movement offers the prospect of a brilliant career for manual workers in a society that otherwise places the greatest value oo intellectual qualifications, and particularly oo a narrow ability to solve math problems. learn a trade and see the world. Along the The Reverend Gérard Pierré, a Jesuit priest who runs a 22,000-volume library for the Compagnons in this medieval city, says

artisan to become a Compagnon.

of Homo Faber and Homo Sapiens creating man and thinking man.

Under the impact of industrialization and mass culture, he said, this balance has been origin of their famous secrecy. lost and manual work has been deprived of its prestige. He pulled out a volume of carpentry, part of a monumental encyclopedia of trades edited by Compagnons. Typically, it begins oot with a dissertation ing man cannot think," said André Moranemployment bureau, oor an ensemble of oo tools or techniques but with a long deau, a companion and former directorof

"Their fundamental idea is that you cannot go forward without taking the past into account," Father Pierré said. "The transmission of knowledge is vital, because it obliges the Compagnons to think through what they are doing.

Although the Compagnons use the term there is something to be learned, or brothers to teach. The orders have houses and contact points around the globe, and are open to members from other countries. Each house is run by a provost, usually a Compagnon who takes two or three years away from his trade to devote to the brotherhood, and by a "mother," a highly revered figure who is the only woman allowed into the secret ceremonies of the Compagnons. In the larg-er houses, the "mothers" have responsibility for up to 100 young men, ranging in age from about 17 to 25. It is their job to create homes of what might otherwise be tightly disciplined barracks.

Typically, aspirants spend their days at work and evenings studying or practicing their trades in specialized workshops. They take their meals together, because the word Compagnon comes from the Latin root of

The largest of the orders is the Workers Association of the Compagnons du Devoir du Tour de France, which trains more than 4,000 young people every year. Although the Compagnons leave religion and politics m individual choice, the association is broadly influenced by Catholic teaching. The second largest group is a federation of Compagnons in the building and allied trades, each of which is autonomous. Like the association, it is concerned with traditional trades linked to the transformation of basic raw materials such as wood, stone and metal.

The oldest of the three groups is the Union of the Compagnons du Tour de now, following an international compe-France des Devoirs Unis. It differs from the tition won hy the Italian architect Guido other two by admitting apprentices from a Canali, Siena's municipality has unveiled broad range of modern trades, such as jewelers, musical-instrument makers and multifaceted "cultural citadel." dental technicians.

The earliest Compagnons woo their sta-they are trying to restore the harmony of a tus as free workers in a feudal age in effect civilization that was built by a combination because they knew how to do things that others could not, and closely guarded the tricks of their trades from kings, bishops and other powerful outsiders. This was the

Today, the Compagnons still see quality as a defense against industrialization and mass production, in an age where society "does everything to ensure that the work-

Detail of "The Tending of the Sick" by Domenico di Bartolo in the Sala del Pellegrinaio of Sunta Maria della Scula.

Siena's New 'Cultural Citadel'

By Roderick Conway Morris International Herald Tribune

IENA, Italy — Hospital, medical school, guesthouse, orphanage and old folk's home, bakery, soup kitchen, safe-deposit, pawnshop, church and cemetery. Santa Maria della Scala, known to the Siecese as simply the pedale, has been for more than 900 years this Tuscan hilltop town's principal treatment and charitable center, and symbol of its philanthropic ideals.

This summer, virtually the last medical and surgical departments were transferred to the modern hospital outside the city walls, leaving only a couple of wards and a first-aid clinic. What should be done with this vast, in places eight-story-high, medieval complex - which occupies the entire side of a hill between the city's cathedral and Francesco di Giorgio's San Sebastiano church — when staff and patients departed has been the subject of intense interest and debate for decades. But

The 150 billion lire (\$94 million) project, which poses delicate restoration prob-lems as well as opportunities for bold restructuring, will take about 10 years to complete. The good news, however, is that the Spedale's medieval and Renaissance nucleus, which contains among other things a unique cycle of 15th-century 'rely life, has meanwhile been opened to the

public for the first time, 'Santa Maria della Scala is, of course, already a museum in itself," said Siena's mayor, Pierluigi Piccini, "and we wanted to until recently a regular ward full of beds), of international significance that would be make it as accessible as possible at once,"

of the project, for which we will have to wait a little longer, will be the reopening of an inaccessible, brick-vaulted medieval street that zigzags its way through the bowels of the building from the main entrance Selva. It will be liberated of later additions constructed over it and see the light of day as a public thoroughfare again.

The earliest known mention of the the comune, or municipality of Siena itself). Its first priority was the care of orphans, but by the next century it was a hospital and a medical teaching center. This was a period journey to Rome from Northern Europe, and accommodating and aiding these travelers ohliged the Spedale to expand its activities.

PART from providing food and clothing for Siena's needy and for impecunious pilgrims (not to mention catacombs beneath the building for the burial of the dead), additional services grew up, including a pawnshop and safe-deposil service, many some of their cash and valuables here before braving the Eternal City's muggers, coo men and tourist traps. (Unreclaimed deposits provided the hospital with a modest extra source of income.)

In 1399 Santa Maria della Scala had 130 beds for male patients and pilgrims, with others for women and children and several overspill wards for busy periods of the 'frescoes depicting the hospital's dai- year. By this time a large, well-endowed and prestigious institution, the hospital was

also a leading patron of the arts. The extensive frescoes in the Sala del Pellegrinaio (Pilgrims' Reception Hall, and

Certainly one of the most exciting stages etta, Domenico di Bartolo and Priamo della Quercia, proudly present the hospital's multiple activiões. In Bartolo's Tending of the Sick." against a background of a clean, hright, airy ward, a young man is . being washed before a surgeon treats a gash on Piazza del Duomo to Piazzetta della in his thigh, two physicians examine a urine sample in a glass flask and an orderly gently lays a patient on a stretcher.

Also illustrated are the progress of a foundling girl, from abandoned babe in Spedale dates from 1090 (35 years before arms being suckled by one of the hospital's wet-nurses, to the schoolroom and playtime, to marriage in a fine dress with a generous dowry provided by the Spedalc; the daily distribution of food and clothing to pilgrims when ever more pilgrims were making the and the poor, and important events in the institution's history, from the inythical story of its inception (the pious founder's mother had a dream in which she saw infants ascending a ladder - the "scala" of the hospital's name - to the Virgin Mary in heaven) to the first buildings' construction and the investiture of a rector.

The most amhitious long-term project for the Spedale is that it should become a home for a new museum of Sienese art throughout the ages, wherein all the major collections pilgrims finding it convenient to leave scattered around the town should be gathered together under one roof. The complex is so large that this could certainly be done without compromising the other envisaged uses, which include restoration workshops, artists' and craftsmen's studios, new premises for the University's Art and Archaeology departments, auditoriums, bookshops, restaurants and bars. The obstacle to the museum is that several public bodies the municipality, province, region and state - own the artworks. If, however, the alltoo-familiar internecine rivalries and bureaucratic red tape can be overcome, Siena could create in this superb setting a museum painted in the 1440s by Lorenzo Vecchi- worth traveling a long way to see.

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Visitors in Munich at the Barnes exhibition: "From Cézanne to Matisse."

, The Barnes Triumph

By Carol Vogel

EW YORK - It was the first time the Haus der Kunst had ever stayed open all night. Theo again, it was also the first time a museum show in Munich had drawn more

than 400,000 people.

The exhibition, "From Cézanne to Matisse: Great French Paintings From the Barnes Foundation," was oo the last day of its last stop on a two-and-a-half-year international tour.

Christoph Vitali, director of the Haus der Kunst, had decided that keeping the mu-seum open for 24 hours would let art lovers make one final "meditative visit" to see the famous Cézannes and Matisses, Renoirs and Manets without the crowds that had swarmed around the museum's galleries since the show opened on June 23.

But in the early morning hours of this "long night of art," on Oct. 22, the museum was packed. Guards had trouble lains. His the paintings.

The response in Munich was hardly atypical. Everywhere the Barnes collection traveled - not only Munich but Washington. Paris, Tokyo, Fort Worth, Toronto and Philadelphia — it set records of one sort or another and got mostly favorable reviews. About five million visitors saw the show,

and many bought Barnes memorabilia in the form of posters, postcards, catalogues, tote bags, scarfs, CD-ROMs and key chains with images of the paintings, filling the coffers of each institution. The show also brought in more than \$17 million in rental fees for the Barnes Foundation.

The Barnes exhibition was one of the most successful in museum history, ranking just behind "The Treasures of Tutankhamen," a seven-city U.S. tour that drew more than eight million people from November 1976 to September 1979.

Why did the Barnes work so well? "Bedded the Barnes work so well?"

sides the large oumber of exceptional paintings by popular artists, the number of paintings — 80 — was just right," said Glenn D. Lowry, who was director of the Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto at the time of the show. "Not too many 10 over-

whelm visitors, not too few."

"It got the reputation for being the girl you can't have," said J. Carter Brown, director emeritus of the National Gallery. 'The mystery of seeing these hidden treasures, major masterpieces hy major artists that would never been shown outside Pennsylvania again, gave it serious oews

In addition, people were curious to see what this little-known millionaire collector

For all of its success, it was a show that almost didn't happen, because of the eccentric nature of the Barnes Foundation.

The foundation was established in 1922. The foundation was established in 1922 by Albert C. Barnes, a trained physician and manufacturer of patent medicines, to bouse

and manage his exceptional art collection. Barnes had amassed about 800 paintings and 200 sculptures, including some 170 Renoirs, 55 Cézannes and 20 Picassos, which he liked to display in crowded, quirky arrangements that included Gothic hardware, African sculpture, furniture and porce-

His stated mission was to educate students in the art of viewing art. The collection was open by appointment only. On-ly in 1961, a decade after Barnes died and after the foundation's tax-exempt status had been challenged in court, were its galleries opened to the public on a limited basis.

O get the show on the road, Richard H. Glanton, the director of the foundation, spent months in court to break the foundation's charter, which stipulated that oo picture could ever be lent, sold or otherwise dis-

Barnes loyalists argued that taking a portion of the collection oo tour would destroy the intentionally reclusive nature of the institution. But the board of directors needed modey to keep the Barnes afloat and save its decaying building in Merion, Pennsylvania, a Philadelphia suburb. The tour allowed the foundation to give

the 1925 building a \$12 million face lift overseen by Robert Venturi, the Philadelphia architect whose acclaimed museum projects include the Sainsbury Wing of the

Contemporary Art, a Vanishing Act

International Herald Tribune

EW YORK — Suddenly, Contemporary Art seems to be vanishing from the auction scene. While Impressionist and early-20th-century art filled fat catalogues last week and made an impressive recovery, the offerings in Contemporary Art never seemed so meager and showed in the totals sold at the end of each Part I session - a modest \$14.5 million at Christie's on Tuesday night and \$19.8 million at Sotheby's on Wednesday night.

Together the two main evening sales added up to little more than one sixth of the

SOUREN MELIKIAN

total achieved in the Impressionist and Modern Art corresponding sessions last week. Six years ago, shortly before the 1990 fall crash, the two categories seemed on their way to financial parity.

Yet, the interest is there. Christie's did not have much to cause wild excitement but the handful of works that were highly rated by the aficionados elicited an appropriate re-

This started with Alexander Calder's Laocoon, " a standing mobile executed in 1947. Bidding, which until then had been tepid, suddenly crackled on every side until the California collector Eli Brod won the contest to the tune of \$992,500.

ters resembling the nightmarish apparitions cheerfully scribbled in colored chalks on classroom blackboards when the schoolmistress is away. The picture, painted in 1961, is part of a series called "The Paris Circus." But on Tuesday New Yorkers were in no mood for circus pranks. A lone bidder bought it for \$662,500, far below the \$800,000 to \$1 million estimates (plus the

commission to the buyer). Was this the wrong place to sell this peculiar Gallie form of would-be humoristic

Not necessarily, A quintessential Amer-ican painting of the New York school fared even worse. Yet, the long abstract frieze that Jackson Pollock executed in 1952 in the so-called "drip-technique" — paint was poured out of a can with a hole punched in — is a rarity. "Number 1, 1952," as Pollock imaginatively called it, illustrates the beginnings of the technique. The swirling black curves have a grainy texture that give the painting a quasi-sculptural feel. Less than 10 such elongated friezes were painted and, of these, only a few are outside museums. Hugues Joffre of Christie's said in an interview. Yet, this one failed to find a taker. As Christopher Burge, chairman of Christie's America who was conducting the sale, called out \$3.1 million,

two hidders were in the ring. But at \$3.3 million, no one took up the challenge.

A day later, Sotheby's sale showed that it does not take much to bridge the distance from a lackluster performance to one that has the appearance of a modest success. There was just a little more that had substance in the auction, as seen by those who rt Gallery of Ontario in Toronto at the ne of the show. "Not too many 10 over-helm visitors, not too few."

The rest of the money, Glanton said, will The manner of David Nash, the director of seek is movement and operating costs. The building reopened to the public on Thursday.

National Gallery in London.

The rest of the money, Glanton said, will go into the foundation's endowment and operating costs. The building reopened to the public on Thursday.

National Gallery in London.

Wafted over his head, transcribed within a sometimes, by auction houses brokering with anctions playing a secondary part. Cloudlike balloon. What Pop Art buyers sales "by private treaty." The reason for this is the first time in decades that auction seek is movement and action. This may be linked to the fact that operating costs. The building reopened to the attention of Sotheby's buying Contemporary Art at auction is no the out of the money of Contemporary Art. Wafted over his head, transcribed within a cloudlike balloon. What Pop Art buyers sales "by private treaty." The reason for this is the first time in decades that auction seek is movement and action. This may buying Contemporary Art at auction is no the sufficiency in the public on Thursday.

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Alexander Calder's "Laocoön," executed in 1947, was sold to a California collector for \$992,500.

soothing the irritation that aggressive estimates might have caused.

Right at the beginning, an early Pollock of 1946 seemed bound to come to grief. "Gray Center," one of eight Abstract Expressionist pictures known as the Accabonac Creek series, is not in the drip technique, invented later, which the broader public wants. The estimate, \$600,000 to \$800,000, was unrealistic. Nash gently let the Pollock go on a \$475,000 bid (\$525,000 with the charge to the buyer), surprising the room and making many sit up, alert to possible bargains in the

offing — and that, according to the dealer Meredith Palmer, was definitely one. The sale slowly began to gather mo-mentum. Minutes later, a 1958 classic came up. The large abstract composition by Sam Francis is splashed in bright blues and yellows oo white, with dashes of red that sing. Bidders started to do so as well. The Francis made \$365,500, not far below the low estimate. Two lots down, a hanging mobile by Calder, "Roxbury Red," sold within the estimated bracket, for \$486,500.

Far below the \$660,000 it made at Sotheby's on May 2, 1989, the Calder was nevertheless well sold as the market stands. Then came the rarest work by far in the whole sale, a large still life hy Arshile Gorky. Done in 1944, in an Expressionist mood, figural but close to abstraction, it soared to \$3,962,500. Victory was beginning to loom.

Roy Lichteustein's "Emeralds" painted in 1961 in the cartoon style for which the

first sale, in this case \$2 million to \$3 million. Nash was lucky and sold it on a \$1:6 million bid, \$1,762,500 with the charge to the buyer.

This renewed the feeling that bargains could be made and may have made it easier for a picture done by Dubuffet on Jan. 27, 1967, to climb comfortably to \$827,500. Less rare than the 1961 Dubuffet sold at Christie's, it fits better with the image of the painter's work as it is known to the wider

There was one more important painting in Sotheby's sale, "Winner," painted by Jasper Johns in 1985. Utterly different from his Abstract Expressionist phase, it illustrates the American artist's return to elaborate figuration, with, in passing, a nod to Surrealism. Familiar to collectors but not. to the public at large, the Johns can be considered the ultimate test to sound out the real degree of bullishness in the Contemporary Art market. At just over \$3 million, "Winter" passed that test with flying colors. On the face of it, this should angur well for the future. It may for the market in general terms, but where the auction scene is concerned, prospects do not look so bright.

THE difficulty that the two anction houses experienced in putting together their mid-November sales is in line with the trend of the last few years. When pressed hard, professionals coocede that there is considerable acname "Pop Art" had not yet been coined, it tivity in the field, but that it takes place was the next big lot. But it was too tame. A behind closed doors. Important transac- seems to be reverting to the situation that man stares at a screen as his thoughts are tions are handled either by dealers or, prevailed for years, a very private market, define the values of Comemporary Art. wasted over his head, transcribed within a sometimes, by auction houses brokening

diffidence and deference to the attendees, as he put estimates on the pictures of his United States, as all those involved in the market will privately concede.

The Contemporary Art market is slowly a small number of adventurous collectors.

Anctions, to be muly successful, require a large attendance. They make sense for Impressionist art for which there are thousands of buyers, and less so for Contemporary Art. Those who own important contemporary works are not inclined to take the risks inherent in any auction. They refer to target potential buyers directly.

via dealers.

The latest sales will do little to change their minds. Too many works were sold below the low estimate, which generally means that vendors were called shortly before the auction, informed by the specialist that there was "less interest than we expected," and urged to lower their reserves. When this happens, most vendors feel they have been trapped, and they don't like it. One last but important factor makes auctions a more difficult venue for Contemporary Art than for earlier schools of paint-

The extreme simplicity of many of its creations leads more easily to a feeling of déjà vu. How often can you gaze at vertical colored bars painted side by side, such as those of Morris Louis, without somehow thinking you have seen it all before? Or at the rhythmical doodles of Cy Twombly? Here repeated public viewings are out necessarily conducive to greater enthusiasm on the buyer's part.

The Contemporary Art market now

BOOKS

INTIMATE WORLDS: Life Inside the Family

By Maggie Scarf. 466 pages. \$25. Random House. Reviewed by Jon Katz

URID headlines and exotic talk-show topics come and go, but Maggie Scarf wastes no time reminding us, in her pow-erful and useful new book, "Intimate Worlds," what the biggest story in most of our lives really is: "the dramas of families — which have to do with loving, losing, power, in-timacy, conflict, and the pressure of the past to reassert itself in the present."

Family life seems to be driving many of us nuts these days. Antiety about childbearing and realing, confusion and change in sex roles, blurred boundaries between adults and children, epidemic claims to victimization - these fill memoirs, support group agendas and therapists' offices.

'Intimate Worlds' is a guidebook through the workings, strategies, mistakes, dis-appointments and tragedies of the American family. Scarf knows the intricacies of the family structure and, even better knows how to write well about them. She avoids almost allof the psychotherapeutic jargon that surrounds discussions ofrelationships —no "issues,"
no "sharing" — jargon that
makes so many of us twitch.

In "Intimate Worlds," as in most of our lives, family is riveting, white-knuckle stuff. Scarf reminds us that our problem isn't hearing too much about families but knowing ton little. Readers of Inomate Worlds" will recognize the troubles and symptoms raised in Scarf's case studies almost from the first page. Though they may

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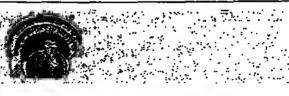
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ing the problems, mistakes and challenges in their own and other families right up to the end. Scarf, a social scientist, writ-

er and senior fellow at the Bush Center for Child Development and Social Policy at Yale Uniconfidence and clarity. We meet 15-year-old Dave, hospi-

children's, and kids so anxious to get help for their troubled family that they become hearthreaking "symptom-bearers" to attract attention.

versity, brings us inside the dai-ly lives of five families with her research and conclusions, Scarf uses a psychological family evaluative system called the talized one Sunday afternoon Beavers Scale of Family Health when he threatened his younger and Competence. She breaks sister with a gun. We meet and her families into five telling cat-Claire Maguire, "An Always egories — Level 5: "The Fam-Angry Husband and a Never ily in Pain — Ghost-Ridden, Angry Wife," and their bulimic Leaderless, Confused"; Level daughter, Kate. Toni Gifford is 4: "The Polarized Family a meotal-health worker whose The Tyrant and His Subjects":



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Jon Katz, a columnist for Wired magazine whose fifth novel, "The Father's Club," will I, are the "Adequate" and is said, to do it well. Most of us be published next year, wrote this for The Washington Post.

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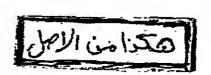
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UMAN

During the last 25 years, the sultanate of Oman, one of the lesser-known countries of Arabia, has witnessed an extraordinary social and economic renaissance. This has been made possible by the prudent use of its limited oil and gas resources. Its perceptive ruler, H.M. Sultan Qaboos bin Said, has played a key diplomatic role in searching for peace in the Middle East and was represented at the recent funeral of the Israeli prime minister.

H.M. Sultan Qaboos bin Said seeks more job opportunities for Omani citizens, urges a greater economic role for women and censures Muslim extrem-

It is now 25 years since you occeded to the throne of the Sultanate of Oman. During this time you have slowly but surely brought the Sultanate into the 20th century. What are you most proud of having achieved during this period?

I am pleased with the thought that my people now have a fine quality of life and every reason to look forward to a secure future in which they will play their full part in Oman's continued progress . . . It is a source of great happiness to me when I travel through

Oman, meeting people and discussing their hopes and needs with them, to see them now enjoying such an improvement in their lives the children healthy, bright and full of energy, preparing for the years to come.

In 1970, nothing of the sort existed in Oman, Childhirth mortality rates were horrifying, and diseases such as trachoma and glaucoma were literally blinding our children. Tuberculosis, polio, malaria and other diseases were widespread, As for education, there were almost no educational facili-

Would you comment on other achievements, perhaps in the social and economic

Once the two most important needs - an efficient health service and a compre-

hensive education system were in hand, our people had to be encouraged to take the fullest advantage to use their talents in rising opportuni-

You have only to visit our schools and university to see the eagerness with which our young people are receiving our education and the success with which both young men and women are taking up the careers that are open to them. As you know, women in the past had no future, apart from the narrowest domestic existence.

Because of the total exclusion of women from professional and public life, only 50 percent of the ability of Omani people was being utilized. I was determined to alter that. Now women are elected members of the Majlis A'Shura – our parlia-

ment - and are playing an and vocational training proactive role in government, business and every other walk of life.

Secondly, from the beginning I was aware that something had to be done to reduce Oman's total dependence on oil revenues . . . it was essential to diversify our economy.

This diversification policy is going well: over 30 percent of our national income is derived from non-oil sources, and our industrial estates are being increased. For example, we are now

exporting refined copper. pharmaceuticals, plastics, processed foods and other products, even cosmetics . . . we are also manufacturing all the uniforms for our armed forces and the police.

You have embarked on a

gram. Do vou see Omanis playing an even greater role in the commercial ond in-

dustrial sectors? Indeed I do. I am determined that our "Omanization" program - the drive to make Omanis take over from foreign nationals should be pressed forward as a matter of the highest priority . . . As young Omanis now come forward after being professionally trained as doctors, engineers, scientists and administrators, it is right that they should now take the economic life of the country into their own

You have established the Majlis A'Shura (the parliament). Is this the first step towards a greater democratization? Haw effective is the very ambitious educational Majlis, and do you, as Sultan, find it useful in reflecting the views of the people of

I have always viewed the full participation of my people in the life of their country as being both right and essential. The establishment of the Majlis, which is the latest step in popular involvement in the national administration, is part of this natural progression . . . Although our country is an ancient one, lack of education has prevented Omanis from gaining the experience necessary for effective, modern government . . . To have hurried on precipitously to acquire the trappings of Western democratic society would really have been disastrous . . . indeed, we are not going to import a Western form of democracy: we are developing a truly Omani democracy which will give our people their

the very basis of their lives. The Mailis provides sound guidance of public opinion and its recommendations are of the greatest value. The advent of women and their contribution to the Mailis is a great success . . . One cannot govern fairly and effectively - and certainly not of life ... there is no place in honorably - if one is not in tune with one's people . . . The Majlis and my annual meet-the-people tours ad-mirably provide me with this

voice and preserve our reli-

gious and cultural traditions,

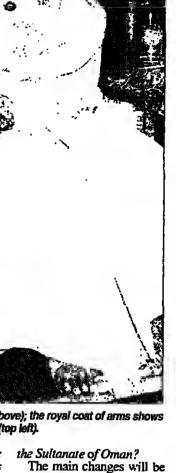
requirement Many Arabs have become more autspoken about haw things should, ar should not,

a reflection of the palace gates (top left). be done in the Islomic world. Often the West labels some as "fundamentalists." As the 21st century dawns, do you believe that Islam will need to change, and if sa haw will this be done

Those small factions that seek to use the Muslim religion as a vehicle for their political ambitions should never be called "fundamentalists." They do not deserve the term since they seek to distort the Muslim religion to achieve their secular aims

. The Muslim religion is a living religion, one that must be interpreted according to ever-changing requirements our religion for extremism under whatever guise, fanaticism of whatever kind, or factionalism of whatever persuasion.

Over the quarter-century to come, what do you think will be the primary changes or improvements mode in



H.M. Sultan Qaboos bin Said (above); the royal coat of arms shows

those social developments arising from the strength which we are able to achieve in our economy . . . it is the national economy which lies without weakening, ar even at the root of a nation's life. destroying, the basic struc-A strong economy breeds strong and confident people. Our successive Five-Year Plans will develop our economy so as to sustain our people's ambitions. We

must maintain full employment . . . But of course there will be problems - the birth rate must not exceed our ability to care for our people and to provide full employment. We must ensure that we have adequate supplies its basic principles and the of water, so vital in this arid region ...

han h continue

our endeavour

Finally, I hope that our in-fluence abroad will enable us to increase our efforts towards peace as well as towards the welfare of humankind in general. (This text has been

abridged.

Interview by Michael Frenchman

IN MEDICINE, THE FOCUS IS ON PREVENTING ILLNESS

The health minister outlines a comprehensive wellness program that involves keeping the body healthy and the environment clean.

Le he changes in Omani health care of only 3,860 beds, 29 health centers hospital care is less in demand be-modern illnesses that are due to a has been staggering in the last 25 (now 70 years for women), and mortality rate has dropped from 120 per thousand people to just 29 per thousand.

Ali bin Mohammed bin Mousa, the minister of health, is an outspoken advocate of preventive medicine and holds some radical views about modern health practices.

"We vaccinate our children against all the usual diseases like rubella, mumps and hepatitis B because we believe that in the end this will save us money. We are also trying to keep our environment clean and to promote a more healthy way of living by leaching the importance of hygiene," says the minister.

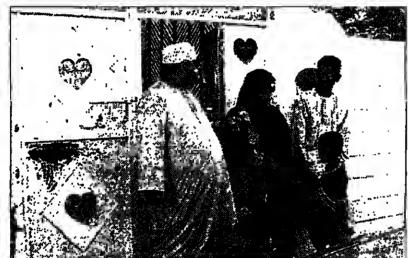
Malaria had been a problem until recently, with thousands of cases being reported.
"In August, we only had 85 cases,

a few in Muscat and along the Batinah coast. The victims were mostly expatriate workers."

Staying out of the hospital

Strategic health care is based on a decentralization policy, with each region having a semiautonomous role in determining and executing its needs under the overall guidance of the ministry. At the end of last year, there were 46 hospitals with a total

with maternity wards and 82 ordi- cause of superior preventive care years. Life expectancy for men has nary health centers. There is a ratio and better diagnostics. "We are tryshot up from 49 years to 67 years of 2.2 beds per 1,000 population ing to teach people that going to the the First World: cardiovascular dis-



Most Omani families have eight or nine children, but family planning is on the rise. The health ministry has emphasized that rapid population growth can burden resources.

"We always preach the message that there is no need for more hospi tals and more beds, because this just creates more bureaucracy in the sys-

and France respectively and five in aim. It is the Omani's responsibility to keep himself or herself in good

'First World diseases'

Dr. Ali thinks that traditional distem," says Dr. Ali, who believes that eases have now been replaced by

comments. Another problem that Oman is facing is a rapid increase in popula-

"We have to face up to diseases of

change in lifestyle.

eases, diabetes (very high, 10 percent of the population) and trauma cases from road accidents," Dr. Ali tion. More than 500,000 people are

under the age of 18. The annual population growth rate for Omani nationals is 3.9 percent; it is over 6 percent for the whole population, including expatriates. Omani families are large - averaging eight or nine children - which places a substantial burden on resources. Birth control has become an important aspect of the ministry's program.

We are trying to teach the impor-

tance of birth 'spacing' and explain to the husbands that there should be a gap between the birth of a new child and the next one. About 20 percent of mothers now practice some kind of contraception. Omanis must realize that they cannot afford to have hig families. It is going to take time for the message to get through, but I think time is in our fa-vor," Dr. Ali says.
"Our emphasis today is very much

on primary health care and the promotion of prevention followed by curative care because this saves us money," he concludes.

in providing Day, we renew our commitment to communications of the His Majesty Sultan highest order, as we Qaboos Bin Said and move towards the the people of the century ahead.

AN EDUCATION REVOLUTION IS TAKING PLACE

1970, there were only three schools, for boys only, with a total of 30 leachers and 900 students in the whole sultanate. Today there are 047 schools, with just under 5(x),0(x) pupils almost equally divided between boys and girls. The number of teachers is 21,457.

Today a young Omani can receive a total education within the sultanate from primary school through to graduation from the Sultan Qaboos University. The university, inaugurated in 1980, is one of the most prestigious in the region. Some 65 percent of its stu-

dents are women. Strong efforts continue to be

One of the pillars of Oman's renaissance has been education. In adults, and there are more than 250 literacy centers in the country. What is surprising, particularly in the capital area, is the large number of English-speaking adults, from drivers to hotel workers. Many learned the language during service with the defense forces or the Royal Oman Police, which in the 1970s had a large number of English-speaking contract officers.

English premium

In order to keep abreast of science and technology, not to mention husiness studies, the Sultan has declared that learning English must be an essential part of any curricu-

our future very much depends on a knowledge of English as the business language and a universal means of communication. It should also help us achieve much higher standards in vocational and technical training, where we have been lagging sadly behind," one leading Omani businessman com-

To make up for lost time, changes are to be made for higher technical training.

*The government is going to contract out about 70 percent of private sector will be able to offer more choice," says Mohamed bin Mousa Al Yousef, minister of state fees if they choose private schools.

"There is now a realization that for development affairs. The government intends to set standards that would be internationally recognized. Parents are to be offered between \$4,000 and \$5,000 as an incentive to send their children to the private technical colleges.

Private schools

In fact, there has been a degree of privatization in education since 1973, when the first private school opened. There are now 69, with nearly 13,000 pupils and over 880 teachers. Further privatization is likely, and parents can opt out of technical education because the sending their children to state schools for hasic education; they will receive up to 70 percent of

Playing a pivotal role in the renaissance of the Sultanate of Oman, General Telecommunications Organization has always strived to get the best of the world, employing highly sophisticated state-of-the-art technology. With Global Network Services (GNS) and the Digital Data Network, OmaNet, today, the Sultanate has established a vital link with the rest of the world,

Reaching out to the world



Ministry of PT & T

General Telecommunications Organization

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WRITER: Michael Frenchman, a London-based writer who specializes in the Middle East. PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Bill Mahder.

STOCK EXCHANGE IS SET TO BE A LEADER IN THE ECONOMY

Foreigners have 49 percent stake in first investment fund.

The Muscat Securities total market capitalization of change) is ooe of the most advanced and liberal of the exchanges in Arabia and the Gulf. It is set to play a more important role in the economic development of the country as the government tries to encourage greater privatization.

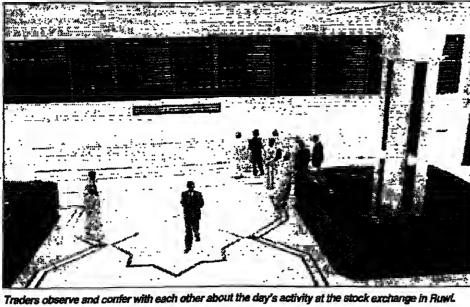
The MSM started in a small office located in the ministry of commerce and industry in 1989 and moved into its own building two

"In those days, there were only 49 stocks listed with a

HERE SE LEGISCO CONTROLLES AND SELECTION OF THE SECONDARY
Market (the local stock ex- \$800 million. Now we have more than 100 stocks with a capitalization of \$3.5 billion. More than 60 stocks are actively traded," says Mah-mood Mohamed Al Jarwani, executive president of the Muscat Securities Market.

Average daily trading (there are two sessions) amounts to between \$2 million and \$2.5 million, an increase of 24 percent over last year's daily average.

The MSM is developing rapidly as more instruments are introduced. In the beginning, only shares were trad-



ed. Today the market deals in development bonds, con- and 51 percent Omaoi. It vertible bonds and investment funds.

"Investors oow have many different options and choices," Mr. Mahmood adds. Last year saw the launch of the first iovestment fund (RO 20 million, or \$51.9

million) - 49 percent foreign was oversubscribed by 100 percent. Since then two more funds bave been

"I am very optimistic, especially as 49 perceot is open to foreign investors." says Mr. Mahmood.

launched.

Two Omani stocks are also listed on the Bahrain Stock Exchange.

A new capital markets law

is expected to be introduced early next year, which, it is hoped, will establish proper regulatory systems, including a securities commissioo and stock exchange council.

BANKING SECTOR GAINS: 'PRUDENT HOUSEKEEPING AND GENTLE PRODDING'

Mergers have strengthened the collective clout of the commercial banks.

financing local

industries'

■ be Omani banking system has gone of the largest banks in Oman. Talks between very healthy position

With an increased focus on privatization and the growth of the securities market, the banks are likely to play an increasingly active role. Prudent housekeepiog and some gentle prodding from the Central Bank have led to a number of mergers as well as to a

substantial increase in the strength of the commercial

banks' assets base. The banks are enjoying a 'The opportunities strong position and are very healthy overall, as we bave convinced them to increase their paid-up capital and persoaded more of them to manufacturing merge," comments Hamoud Sangour Hashim, executive or processing president of the Central Bank. Three of the latest mergers bave resulted in the Bank of Muscat Al Ahli Al Omani, the Commercial Bank of Oman and

the Oman Arab Bank. The Bank of Muscat Al Ahli Al Omani numed in a net profit of 3.5 million Omani Riyals (\$9 million) for the first half of this

year. At the end of 1994, total assets

amounted to RO 301 million, followed by

Oman International Bank (RO 292 millioo) and the National Bank of Oman (RO 288 million). "These mergers bave strengthened both client and consumer base and the banks are now recouping the the benefits of cutting ad-

ministration costs and getting a bigger share

of business," says Mr. Hamoud.

A fourth merger now taking place is between the Oman Development Bank and Oman Bank for Agriculture and Fisheries, whose combined assets are said make it one

through a striking change and is now in a the two banks have been going on for many months and a final decision is expected to be

reached shortly. "Although we don't expect any other mergers, we would welcome them and we are offering various incentives," adds Mr. Hamoud.

The commercial banking system has grown considerably since 1970, when total deposits amounted to only RO 33 million. These had grown to RO 1.36 billion by the end of 1994. By the end of last

June, they stood at RO 1.3 The dimension of banking development has been remarkable over the years." comments Mr. Hamoud.

Total credit extended by the commercial banks was hardly RO 4 million in 1970. This went up to RO 293 nullion in 1980, RO

272 million in 1990 and had accelerated to RO 1.38 billion by the end of June."

Private sector involvement

Mr. Hamoud says that the banks were not very liquid but that there was more emphasis being placed on involvement in the development of the private sector in possible new flotations and public issues. Although there are prospects of a number of major capital projects related to the oil and gas sector, opportunities for the local banks to participate are extremely limited due to the banks' overall size.

As one banker remarks: "You have to put the Omani banking system in perspective its combined assets are less than that of any of several single Gulf banks. The opportunities are in financing local manufacturing or processing industries."

NATURAL GAS JOINS OIL AS A MAJOR EARNER

Oil has been the key to Oman's re- enough for us to start at least one try to raise 70 percent of the first naissance and is likely to remain major export project plus, perhaps, the major revenue earner for the a couple of smaller ones," says the foresceable future. Oil sales are likely to exceed \$4.5 billion by the end of this year. Production today is about 850,000 barrels a day, and recoverable reserves are estimated to number some five billion bar-

The prospects for exploitation of natural gas also offer substantial potential. According to one oil consultant in Muscat, total "bankable" reserves are thought to be between 40 and 50 trillion cubic feet. "Our current reserves are

consultant. While there is considerable discussion about diversifying away from total dependence on oil, the focus of attention is on gas in particular, the massive \$6 billion-plus liquefied oatural gas

LNG) processing plant and the

Looking abroad

Oman-India pipeline.

Last mooth, it was announced that Oman LNG, the company set up to process the natural gas, will be goiog to the international markets to

\$3.5 billion.

The rest will be raised by equity financing," comments Tony Hanna, general manager of Oman LNG. Chase Manhattan is acting as consultant for the financing, and more than 200 banks are expected to take part io the syndication. Royal Dutch/Shell, with 34 percent, is the major shareholder.

The success and indeed, the viability, of the project depends on a long-term sales agreement with South Korea. According to the oil consultant, South Korea is expected to take about 3.2 million tons of

gas a year. "We expect the first stage of the project to be completed by the year 2000, says the coosultant. "This will involve one processing train, and the second train will probably depend on a loogterm sales agreement with Japan."

An 800-mile undersea gas export pipeline to India is the other major project. It is being promoted by Oman Oil Co., which has already spent \$12 million on a feasibility study of what will be the world's deepest pipeline - two miles deep in places.

Oman Oil is seeking to raise \$4 billion for the project.

TELECOMS: LINKS TO REMOTE AREAS

The latest technology can be found in the desert.

he development of modern telecommunications in the second-largest country in Arabia, which had only three interational and 500 domestic telephone lines in the capital area in 1970, brings its own peculiar problems. In a land that has many areas that are remote from normal power supplies and that ranges from subtropical forests in the south to the treeless Musandam peninsula in the north, solar panels provide electricity for more than 100 small microwave repeater installation.

Virtually the whole country is covered with either fixedline facilities, mobile radio or satellite systems. At the end of last August, the sultanate had 118 digital switching exchanges, with a capacity to handle 221,813 fixed and mobile circuits. The transmission systems include a mix of the latest technology, including both analog and digital coaxial cables and microwave stations, optic fibers and a domestic satellite facility operating through Arabsat.

By the beginning of this month, the GTO had hoped to bring full telecommunications coverage to the mountainous Murandam peninsula, which although speedly populated has scores of small villages - one or two of which are only accessible by boat.

"We are also going to have a new digital station," says Noor bin Mohamed hin Abdulrahman, president of the PTT's General Telecommunications Organization, "with both analog and digital services, being installed at the Al Amerat Earth Station, which will provide an additional capacity of 40,000 circuits. This will provide coverage for some new areas and will be available to meet additional de-

Oman has been a communications trailblazer, with many subscriber services, including voice mail, data transmission via GNS (Global Network Services) and the domestic satellite service (Domsat), which was introduced in 1977 to previde links between Muscat, the capital, and the Dhofar region in the extreme south. Oman was one of the first Middle Eastern countries to introduce GNS, in 1993. Now the GTO is introducing a VSAT (Very Small Aperture Terminal) system to meet a growing demand for quality communications from remote oil exploration rigs and small villages that cannot be served by conventional systems.

The demand for leased and dial-up data services has increased rapidly in the last few years, with more than 1,100 subscribers. With the continued liberalization and greater diversification of the economy as more foreign investors move into the sultanate, the GTO expects the demand for its GNS services to continue rising.



Mr. Noor says that the GTO intends to keep abreast of communication developments and will shortly provide a local "node," or access point for computer users to access the

We want to encourage the establishment of local user groups who will develop and implement local database resources. This will reduce dependence on international service providers and allow a greater proportion of revenues to remain in Oman for reinvestment in more facilities."

The obsolescence treadmill

The one area the GTO refuses to rush into is mobile satellite communications, for both political and practical reasons. GSM (Global System for Mobile communication) has been under study for some time.

"The equipment itself is becoming smaller and cheaper, costs for the systems are dropping all the time. At least the system we buy should be the latest type. Some Gulf countries that took the lead are already having to replace their existing systems," explains Mr. Noor.

The other major issue is privatization. Already the sale of telephone instruments and pagers has been liberalized for some time. "The question now is, 'Should we privatize GSM?" says Mr. Noor. From comments made in some govemment circles, it seems that the next five-year plan, due to start next year, will call for either partial or total privatization of the proposed GSM network, which would fill an important gap in Oman's overall telecommunications system.

TOURISM INCREASES AT A STEADY PACE

The government is inviting tourists to Oman, but it does not necessarily want them to visit en masse.

rom the beautiful Sohar Beach Hotel, with its miles of dark sand stretching as far as the eye can see, to the stark, mountainous Musandam peninsula and the lusb subtropical areas of Dohar in the south, Oman has some of the best-kept secrets of the tourist world. Last season, more than

22,000 European tourists made their way to this unknown part of the Arabian peninsula. Oman is a kaleidoscope of history and tradition spanning more thao four millennia, with dozens of archaeological sites from the Iron and Bronze Ages to the 16th-century era of colowho left behind a network of fortresses and defense works. Many of the castles. with their distinctive round towers, are now being restored. A fort at Bahia now under restoration has been listed in UNESCO's Index of the World's Cultural Her-

Oman has a long tradition as a maritime natioo. Mer-chants traveled far afield. down the African coast to Zanzibar and to Southeast Asia and China. Some historians credit the Omanis with leading the Portuguese navigators on their discovery byages to the east.

The maritime heritage of the Omanis has given them a very cosmopolitan attitude toward the modern world that sets them apart from most of their Gulf neighbors. They have one of the



The Sohar Beach Hotel, with a pool and slide, offers amusement for children and tranquility for adults.

largest indigenous popula-tions (about I.5 million) and are intensely proud of their tribal traditions even today.

Measured growth During the last five years, the government has made a small but positive step toward opening up the country to the discerning tourist matket. Until recently, it had been virtually sealed off to all but a bandful of European visitors, mainly expatriates from the Gulf states and relatives or frieods of expats working in the sultanate. The number of regional tourists is now just over 300,000 a year.

We are very conservative io our attitude toward tourism," says Saif bin Has-

shil Al Maskery, undersecretary for tourism at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. "We have just begun to put Oman on the world tourism map, but we don't even have eoough hotels for the moment." Apart from the practical

aspects of an acute shortage

of hotel rooms, there has

also been a feeling that an influx of foreigners with certain Western habits might bave negative social consequences on the local popula-The recent arrival of Pizza Hut outlets and the ubiquitous golden arches of Mc-

Donald's have already had an effect on local young-

At present, the sultanate

has only 3,000 hotel beds. According to its tourism development plan, it should have 10,000 by the year 2005. A five-star botel with 285 rooms, which may be managed by Hyatt, is under construction on a beachfront site in Muscat, and a threestar apartment-hotel is also being built. In addition, a feasibility study for a second five-star hotel is being carried out.

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Five percent target Next season should see the opening of a medium-sized beach resort hotel at Bandar Kharao. A major marina project is currently uoder construction in the capital area and will be a totally contained recreational and

leisure complex, possibly

with some villas. In the extreme south, one of the main centers of the traditional frankincense and myrrh industries, hotels that meet international standards are few and far between. There is only the Holiday Inn in Salalah, which makes a good base for exploring the desert, the recently discovered lost city of Ubar on the edge of the Empty Quarter and the lush subtropical vegetation of the jebel (the green mouotains). There is also the dramatic escarpment of Habrut on the

Oman has a great deal to offer the tourist. What it says Saif bin Hashil.

PRIVATE COMPANIES PROVIDE INFRASTRUCTURE - AND MUCH MORE

One of the Oman government's top priorities is to diversify the economy. This includes decreasing the country's dependence on the oil and gas sector and encouraging the private sector to play a greater role in manufacturing and industry. "Privatization" has become a buzzword now that the government is about to initiate its next fiveyear-plan.

DARBOARD

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The Omzest Group of companies, which is one of the largest private companies in the sultanate, has played a leading role in the commercial and infrastructure development of Oman. One of its associate companies. Walced, built some of the first schools and hospitals.

the Oman Flour Mills and the operation of Mina Qaboos Port. The group was also part of the consortium to build Oman's color television station - the first in the Gulf.

Diversification bas been one of Omzest's keys to success. Its activities range from banking and finance to health care, telecommunications, transport and tourism. In addition, companies within the group account for 45 percent of the sultanate's total manufacturing exports.

Strong export business

"One company, Protein Products International, exports 95 percent of its production to the United States, Europe Other major projects have included and Japan." says a company

spokesman. Altogether Omzest exports to more than 30 countries, from Africa to Asia. One of its associate companies, Reem Batteries and Power Appliances. is thought to be the only battery manufacturer in the Gulf that exports the (GCC) Gulf Cooperation Council countries, as well as to Africa and Eu-

We must contribute more, and we must build on what we have and diversify further to meet the challenge of the next century," says Omar bin Abdul Munim Al Zawawi, president of Omzest. His brother, Qais, the deputy prime minister for financial affairs and one of the sultan's closet advisors, was killed in a tragic auto accident last September while driving with the sultan. between Airmech of Bahrain and the

Referring to current business developments. Mr. Omar adds, "Today, manufacturing has become a thrust area within the group. We have 18 highly diversified manufacturing units. The product line includes textiles, automotive batteries, vegetable oils, diapers. footwear, storage water tanks, multipurpose paints, pvc (polyvinyl chloridel and cement pipes and soft drinks. Now we are hoping to increase still further our exports of manufactured

Focus on health care

Another company that has contributed to the infrastructure is Airmech-Oman, a joint venture contracting company

local Omani Alawi Enterprises. Major works have included the 100-bed hospital at Buraimi and the VIP extension to the Sultan Qaboos Hospital in For the latter, Airmech-Oman was

responsible for the total design, procurement, installation and commissioning of a state-of-the-art operating area and six-bed intensive care unit. Some other projects involving

Airmech-Oman have included the new British Embassy and services for the Royal Oman Sympbony Orchestra complex. The company maintains extensive workshops and manufacturing facilities

in the sultanate for aluminum and steel

lacks is the infrastructure. "We have a target to increase tourism 5 percent annually, but what we now need is more investment,"

Yemeni frontier.



We extend our heartfelt greetings to **His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said**and the people of Oman on the occasion of
the 25th National Day

MULTI-FACETED OMAN. ENTERPRISING AS ITS PEOPLE.



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S.A.O.G.

Al Wardha Footwear & Leather
Products Co.

Amiantit Oman S.A.o.C.

Areej Vegetable Oils &

Derivatives S.A.O.G.

Decorative Glass

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S.A.O.G.

National Heaters Industries Co. LLC

oman Agriculture Development Co. S.A.O.G.

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omani Marble Co. LLC

Protein Products International LLC

Reem Batteries & Power Appliances Co. S.A.O.G.

Reem Radiators & Accessories

Riyam Investment & Trading Establishment LLC

> Sadolin Paints (Oman) Ltd.

Waleed Vacu-Lug Tyres Oman LLC



Areej Business Systems Co. LLC

Bishara Establishment

General Electronics & Trading Co.

Muscat Cold Stores LLC

Office Supplies Co. LLC

Oman Mechanical Services Co. Ltd. LLC

Omzest Beijing

Riyam Marketing & Services Co. LLC

Waleed Associates

Waleed Communications Co. Ltd.

Waleed Foodstuff & Trading Co. (Wafco) LLC

Waleed Pharmacy

Zawawi Business Machines LLC
Zawawi Trading Co. LLC

Agendes & Representation

Omzest Business Division

oman Mechanical Services Co. Ltd. LLC

Reem Scientific & Energy Technologies LLC

Riyam Engineering

Waleed Associates

Wilayat Co. Ltd.

Zawawi Trading Co. LLC



National Telephone Services Co. LLC

Oman Services & Supply Organization

Qurum Contractors LLC

Waleed Agricultural Projects LLC



Muscat Commercial

Services LLC

Muscat Finance Co. Ltd.

S.A.O.G.

Muscat Insurance Co.

5.A.O.G.

Oman International

Bank S.A.O.G.

Oman Securities Portfolio Co. S.A.O.G.

Omzest Investment

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Al Khuwair Development &

Services Co. S.À.O.G.

Al Rimah Medical Centre LLC

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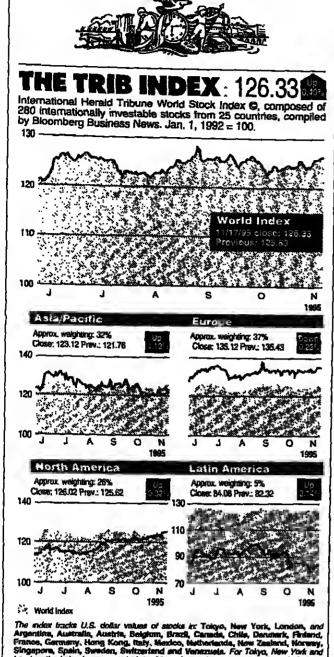
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Utilities	123.79	123.40	+0.32	Raw Materials	139.67	139.20	+0.34
Finance	118,16	116.76	+1.20	Consumer Goods	132,49	132.52	-0.02
Services	116.46	116.17	+0.25	Miscellaneous	133,10	132.77	+0.25

Asia Pact Trades on Competition

By Michael Richardson International Herald Tribune

OSAKA. Japan - While Asian and Pacific leaders will endorse only a "voluntary" free-trade accord when they meet Sunday, fierce competition among their

NEWS ANALYSIS

countries for investment and economic efficiency will put intense pressure on them to live up to its liberalization terms. Foreign and trade ministers from the 18 members of APEC, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, said Friday in a joint statement that the blueprint to be sent to the summit "reflected the voluntary commitment and the political determination of each member" to achieve free and open trade and investment no later than 2020 among developing countries and 2010 for developed economies.

Officials said the word "voluntary

made a year ago by APEC leaders and ministers in Bogor, Indonesia.

In recent years, Malaysia, like many countries in the region to attract investment and technology for more efficient pro-

duction of goods, services and exports. One Western official said Malaysia was better-equipped than most other APEC members to meet the targets.

it will be able to meet them." he said. 'It's simply a matter of wanting to preserve a little bit of wriggle room."

Nonetheless, Malaysia's determinanon not to be bound to abolish all barriers to the flow of goods, services and capital reflects similar concerns among some other APEC members, including Japan,

China, Taiwan and South Korea Officials said the word "voluntary"
had been inserted at the last minute at the insistence of Malaysia but that it was not because of the political influence of their Evans, said.

To take account of concerns such as these and the diversity of APEC's member economies, the group - which inother countries in East Asia, has been cludes large and small economies in opening its economy in a race with other North and South America as well as Asia - has agreed not to undertake a region-

> Japan supports pact but refuses to say whether it iocludes rice. Page 19.

"I don't think anybody, least of all the wide round of legally hinding negoti-Malaysian government itself, doubts that ations based on reciprocal concessions such as occurred among the United States, Canada and Mexico in the North American Free Trade Agreement.
Instead, each member will offer cuts in

tariffs and nontariff barriers by the time of the next APEC summit in Manila io 1996. with the cuts to begin in 1997.

"The bottom line here is the need for arrangements to ensure that there is a broad and perceived equivalence," the foreign minister of Australia, Gareth

Nightmarish Obstacles Could Face Group's Dream

OSAKA, Japan - APEC's dream of a

booming Pacific Rim unfettered by trade barriers risks becoming bogged down in bureaucracy, obfuscation and political rivalries, business advisers to the group said Friday.

Eveo as the 18 members of the Asia-Pacific Ecocomic Cooperation forum set a voluntary course for economic liberalization within 25 years, business execurives voiced misgivings over the ob-

what is exactly meant by a country's ment said. promise to APEC.

To the irritation of the United States, Mexico, New Zealand and Japan, Malaysia insisted that the ministers' final communiqué stress APEC's 'voluntary approach, a demand that shadowed the forum's summit in Indooesia a year earlier, diplomats said.

They agreed that the draft reflected the voluntary commitment and the political determination of each member Within minutes of Friday's meeting, a economy to achieve the objectives set by lems, advisers said.

year-old conflict erupted in public as to the economic leaders at Bogor," a state-

Ippei Yamazawa, an adviser to a private husiness executives' forum that advises APEC, the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council, said the financial crises in Mexico, where capital flooded swiftly and unhindered out of its newly liberalized financial markets, were haunting the fringes of a forum that encompasses half of the world's economic output.

The region's vast economic and polineal diversity also poses stubborn prob-

Germany Wins French Support For EMU Goals

FRANKFURT — Germany and France, the two countries at the heart of Europe's ambitions for monetary union, made clear Friday that they were still 100 percent behind plans to create a stable European currency on time in 1999.

Finance Minister Theo Waigel of Germany said he had secured French support for a German-led initiative to ensure that the strict fiscal goals set out in the Maastricht treaty on monetary unioo were maintained after union was achieved.

"They are ready to participate; we have not yet discussed the details," Mr. Waigel said after two hours of talks with his French counterpart and governors of both countries' ceotral banks during the European Banking Congress.

Minister Jean Arthuis of France, back in Paris after the meeting, insisted that there could be no going back on any provision in the Maastricht treaty and said countries had to show determination to make the process irreversible — including automatic sanctions on any country that relaxed its fiscal

an EU monetary union. 'We must look for a mech- 1.84 anism to encourage financial 1.97 rigor and providing in some cases for sanctions," Mr. 1.58 Arthuis said. But he added that 1.19 respect of budgetary disci-D.77 pline must not jeopardize each state's sovereignty over its bud- 0.03

get choices." France and Germany, as leaders of the European integration movement, are seen as essential core members of the first wave of economic and monetary union.

Germany currently meets the stringent criteria in the Maas- 1se 5 tricht treaty, but France faces a urlin need to cut its budget deficit at a linar time of high unemployment. Also at the Frankfurt meet- nillio

ing, the Bundesbank president, g an-Hans Tietmeyer, fueled the debate on a European single currency by insisting that Europe's future central bank adopt German-style money-supply targets to set interest-rate policy.

"It seems to me to be the profit appropriate strategy for the Eu- hange ropean central bank," he said, hailing the Bundesbank's brand of "enlightened monetarism" as the best way to maintain the stagrip once it had reached the bility of the single currency, high standards needed to join in (Reuters, Bloomb

(Reuters, Bloomberg)

Economists Warn French Reform Plan Could Stifle Growth

By Max Berley Special to the Herald Tribu

PARIS - After initial enthusiasm over the new French welform reform package, some economists took a closer look at the plan and warned Friday that its heavy reliance on tax increases could dampen France's economic growth.

"Whatever the public presentation may bave been, the plan is actually based on tax increases rather than spending cuts," said Julian Jessop, an economist at HSBC Markets in London.

reform the social-security system, which currently generates a

deficit of around 60 billion francs (\$12 billion) every year.

The plan includes a proposal to reduce the running social security deficit to 16.6 billion francs in 1996 and to generate a surplus of 11.8 billion francs in 1997. It also creates a new tax intended to erase an estimated 250 billion francs in debt accrued by the system since 1992,

'At face value, the 1996 deficit reduction package raised nearly 37 billion francs but contains less than 10 billion francs of tax increases," Mr. Jessop wrote in an analysis of the reform, He said that all but two of the measures described as "management Prime Minister Alain Juppé presented a long-awaited plan to reforms" in the plan were "tax increases by another name. A more accurate representation is therefore that 25 billion francs of at "no higher than 2.2 percent."

the 37 billion francs package relies on tax increases.

As a result, he has reduced his prediction for France's 1996 inera gross domestic product growth to 1.9 percent from 2.5 percent. Economic growth is critical to the success of the reform plan.

Finance Minister Jean Arthuis said Wednesday he counted on GDP growth of 2.8 percent in 1996 to help generate the additional

tax revenue that would be needed. The Bank of France even appeared to lend its support to the plan by cutting two key interest rates on Thursday.

But despite the cuts, Jean-François Mercier, an economist at Salomon Brothers in London, said he foresaw 1996 GDP growth

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ECONOMIC SCENE

Supply-Siders Try an Encore

By Peter Passell New York Times Service

EW YORK — Fiscal conservarism is in: Polls show that most Americans are willing to forgo tax cuts to balance the budget. But supply-side economics, the good-news gospel that equated low tax rates with increased tax revenues and rapid growth, is still alive and kicking too. The economists delivering the latest vari-

ation on the theme, moreover, are hardly wildeyed evangelicals. One is Martin S. Feldstein, a Harvard professor and former adviser to President Ronald

Reugan who ironically was hounded out of the White House by supply-side zealots. The other is Daniel R. Feenberg, a respected specialist on tax data. Their studycalculates that raising taxes on wealthy Americans in 1993 raised just one-

third of the money that would have been expected if taxpayers had not changed their economic behavior.

Are they right? Deputy Treasury Secretary Lawrence H. Summers said their conclusions had "no basis whatsoever." But the controversy is a reminder that the

war over the efficacy of progressive taxation is far from over.

The deficit-reduction package pushed through Congress in 1993 raised the top income tax bracket to 36 percent from 31 percent for families with taxable incomes between \$150,000 and \$250,000 and to 39.6 percent for those with incomes of more than \$250,000. In addition, the ceiling on the Medicare ruption in 1993 of the trend to payroll tax was climinated, effectively raising increasing income concentration.

the marginal tax rate by 2.9 percentage points on incomes above \$135,000.

By contrast, the levy on incomes just below those levels did not change. Mr. Feldstein and Mr. Feenberg suggest that taxpayers at this level, therefore, could be regarded as "controls" in an experiment in the effect of higher rates on tax revenue. If the gross income of the rich (here defined

as those with adjusted gross incomes exceeding \$200,000) had marched in lockstep with that of the upper-middle class (\$50,000 to \$200,000), it would have grown by 2.9 per-cent. In fact, the taxable income of the \$200,000-plus group fell short of projections by \$31 billion. That meant that, instead of collecting an

extra \$16 hillion in taxes from this group, Washington received just \$5 billion. Higher tax rates also widened the gap between what the rich earned and what they kept, supposedly leading them to work less.

It is a plausible story, but is it true? One problem, government officials say, is that the estimate critically depends on the base year. If 1991 instead of 1992 is used for a comparison with 1993, there is no shortfall in expected income and thus in tax revenue.

Another is the possibility of tax-shifting. If high-income earners annicipated higher tax rates in 1993 after President Bill Clinton was elected in November 1992, they presumably would have tried to realize more income in 1992, and there is evidence that they did.

Mr. Feldstein's response is that no one else has an adequate explanation for the interruption in 1993 of the trend toward ever-

Pechiney Sell-Off Cast in Doubt as Investors Turn Shy

Resers

PARIS - France's sale of Pechiney SA may be in trouble. analysts said Friday, because investors are not rushing to reserve shares in the aluminum

giant. Some analysts wonder whether the sale may simply be canceled at the pre-marketing

'I would not be surprised if hy eod-November the operation were cancelled," one said.

But Finance Minister Jean Arthuis dismissed the idea, at least for the time being. "I have no plans to suspend the sale of Pechiney," he said.

The French government decided Monday to go ahead with the privatization of Pechiney despite recent weakness in the Paris stock market and suggested a price range for institutional investors of 187 to 215 francs (\$38.50 to \$44.28) a share.

The price represents a 15 percent discount from the prelaunch price of Pechiney cernificates

Placement of nonbinding orders began Tuesday, and some analysis said it had got off to a slow start. Investors have grown wary of Freoch privatizations because shares in many privatized companies have performed poorly.

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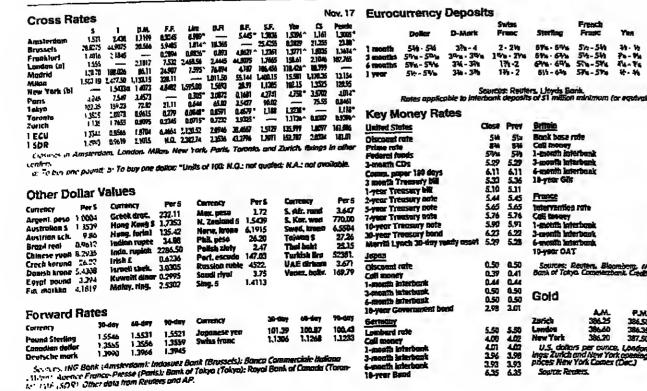
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THE AMERICAS

At Time Warner, Storm Before Calm? U.S. Rate Prospects awarded the top job at the troubled music division—that most startled the media industry. While some application have been lacking." His choice of people, ability to run partnerships and technological vision have been lacking." While some application and the some application is all vision have been lacking." While some application is a solution of the some application is a solution in the solution in the solution is a solution in the solution in the solution is a solution in the solution in the solution in the solution is a solution in the solution in the solution in the solution is a solution in the solution in th



Very briefly:

H-P Net Rises, but Stock Plummets

PALO ALTO. California (Bloomberg) — Hewlett-Packard Co. said Friday its net income rose 42 percent in its fourth quarter, but its shares fell sharpty after the company said rising sales of personal computers had cut into profit margins.

The computer maker's after-tax profit in the three months ended Oct. 31 was \$678 million, while revenue for the period rose 29 percent, to \$9.05 billion. But the company said it had made less television service and was another former Time Warner music executive. Mo Austin. money on each dollar of revenue because it had sold more personal computers and printers, which carry lower profit margins. Hewlett-Packard shares closed at \$88.50, down \$4.75.

The earnings were very good," said Martin Ressinger, an analyst at Duff & Phelps Investment Research. "But there is concern about the falling gross margins."

 Apple Computer Inc. and International Business Machines Corp. plan to close Kaleida and Taligent, two joint ventures created to make software for both companies, according to a manager of Kaleida.

• Dalkon Shield Claimants Trust said a federal appeals court had cleared the way for distribution of about \$800 millioo to eligible claimants next month. The trust of about \$2.5 billion, which has distributed about \$1.4 billion since 1988, was established to compensate about 177,000 claimants who say they were injured by the Dalkon shield intrauterine device.

 Aetna Life & Casualty Co. is in preliminary talks to sell its Aeltus Investment Management unit in Hong Kong to Invesco PLC. Aetna abandoned its search for a buyer for Aeltus four

By Geraldine Fabrikant and Deirdre Carmody

New York Times Service NEW YORK - Even in the context of the continuing man-Inc., the ouster of Michael Fuchs - the longtime head of the company's Home Box Office cable network who had recently added Warner Music Group to his port-

folio - was a shock. Mr. Fuchs was forced to resign Thursday by Time Warner's chairman, Gerald Levin, to see the turmoil continue." who in the past year has accepted the resignations of a number of executives who were highly regarded in the entertainment business but who ran afoul of Mr. Levin.

Mr. Fuchs was forced out of the company in a shakeup that gives broad new powers to the top executives at the Warner Brothers film division.

Time Warner also made changes Thursday in its publishing business including appointing new top editors at two of its leading magazines.

Walter Isaacson, who has led Time Inc.'s New Media unit, was named managing editor of Time magazine, while Jim Colson, an assistant managing editor at Sports Illustrated, was promoted to managing editor of

that publication. But it was the ouster of Mr. Fuchs - who had been with the company 18 years, built HBO into the industry's leading pay-

NEW YORK — The dollar hovered

around its recent weak levels Friday as

traders continued to focus on the budget

deadlock between Congress and the White

marks, up slightly from 1.4065 DM on Thursday, and at 102.15 yen, up from

The curreocy closed at 1.4073 Deutsche

"The dollar's drifted a bit, and the bud-

get seems to be dominating the whole

thing," said Karl Halligan, strategic cur-

rency trader at CIC Bank New York.

House.

102.13 yen.

While some analysts said the departure of Mr. Fuchs could mark the beginning of a new era said the upheavals had become federal antimust scrutiny. so frequent that no one's tenure was certain.

other shoe drops. It is disturbing Larry Haverty, senior vice

president at State Street Research, said: "I think the chair-

plete its \$7.5 billion acquisition agement turmoil at Time Warner of stability under executives in of Turner Broadcasting Sysfavor with Mr. Levin, others tems Inc., a deal that is drawing

Mr. Fuchs had reportedly "It's wild," said Ed Hatch of quisition, which would have the two several weeks ago UBS Securities. "Each time put HBO and him under the about taking over the music there seems to be stability, an oversight of Ted Turner, who is to become vice chairman of Time Warner.

Time Warner's decision to Warner Brothers and Warner

man is in very tenuous shape. Music Group expands the pow-

New York Times Service

MCA's Music Chief Quits

LOS ANGELES - MCA Inc., after months of strategic planning under its new owner Seagram Co., has disclosed that Al Teller, chairman of its highly profitable music divisioo since

The entertainment company said Mr. Teller would be replaced by Doug Morris, an MCA executive who was dismissed just a few months ago as chief of the music division at Time Warner Inc. and then recruited by Mr. Teller.

More changes may be in store. Mr. Morris said be intended to bring with him Mel Lewinter, another former senior music head of the music division. executive at Time Warner.

The surprise moves provided a twist to the changes that have Mr. Fuchs's corporate politick-shaken the music industry this year, including Time Warner's ing and felt he had become an ouster of Micbael Fuchs on Thursday. Mr. Fuchs was head of the Warner Music Group and the Home Box Office network.

In addition, MCA recently made a distribution agreement with Dreamworks SKG's new music division, which is to be run by

stalemate would eventually be solved and

the recent rallies in the U.S. stock and bond

markets kept the dollar from falling much.

Clinton and Congress earlier led specu-

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

lators to sell the dollar, as political and

economic gridlock had been viewed as

negative for the currency.

The conflict between President Bill

The moves come as Time Semel, co-chairmen of Warner Warner is attempting to com- Brothers, who will retain those positions while assuming the same titles at Warner Music.

Both Mr. Daly and Mr. Semel signed new long-term cootracts Wednesday, Mr. Daly bridled at the terms of that ac- said Mr. Levin had approached group. There continues to be industry speculation, however, that Mr. Daly and Mr. Semel would oot have agreed to the combine the management of contracts without gaining the

news positions. Mr. Daly and Mr. Semel. longtime colleagues who are two of the most highly regarded executives in the entertainment business and represent the most stable management team in Hollywood, could give Mr. Levin a new measure of corporate calm, analysts said.

Mr. Fuchs had been said to be against Time Warner's pending purchase of Turner Broadcasting, an acquisition for which Mr. Levin has fought hard. He was also reportedly reluctant to give up his post as chairman of HBO once he had been made

But even those who criticized ing and felt he had become an impediment to Mr. Levin's strategy for the company said the number of executives who had left Time Warner was a cause for concern.

Budget Deadlock Keeps a Lid on Dollar Market participants' belief that the budget at Norwest Bank. "The officials involved

look like babies that can't communicate." "The market still thinks there will be a compromise down the line," so the dollar isn't falling much, said Earl Johnson, currency adviser at Bank of Mootreal/Harris Bank. "If this stretches through next week and we still have a sbutdown, then people

The dollar was also quoted at 1.1385 Swiss francs, up from 1.1382 francs, and at 4.8482 French francs, down from 4.8550 When you talk to people overseas, they francs. The pound fell to \$1.5433 from are perplexed," said David Moline, trader \$1.5557. (Bloomberg, Reuters)

will get nervous.

closed at a record high for the third day on Friday, buoyed by optimism that interest rates will fall in the months ahead and

increase corporate profits. The Dow Jones industrial average closed 20.59 points higher, at 4,989.95. Advancing issues outpaced decliners by a 13-to-9 ratio on the New York Stock Exchange.

Shares of entertainment, financial and telephone companies gained as investors bet

U.S. STOCKS

the Federal Reserve Board would lower interest rates next month, making it less expensive for companies and consumers to borrow.

The monthly expiration of options accelerated the advance by creating demand for stocks. Bond prices were little

changed, with the 30-year Treasury bond down 3/32, at 108 20/ 32, for a yield of 6.23 percent, up from 6.22 percent on Thursday. Expectations for falling rates

helped shares of banks and othfinancial companies, said Steven Goldman, market strategist at Weeden & Co.

BankAmerica rose 1/8, to 60%, Chemical Banking climbed 1, to 58%, Chase Manhattan rose ¼, to 59½, and Citi-

corp climbed 3/8, to 67%. Estée Lauder shares rallied to a close of 341/2 oo their first day of trading, up from its initial offering price of 26. The shares of the family-controlled New York cosmetics company were among the most active on the company. Big Board.

'It's an example of the scarcity of high-quality con-sumer stable-demand stocks, said Michael Metz, chief investment strategist at Oppen-

"We've already seen other drugs, foods and beverages doing extremely well, and the market is focusing on this unique franchise in the consumer area.

Computer issues dropped af-

NEW YORK - Stocks cuts and an increase in sales of less profitable personal computers had held back earnings in its fourth quarter. Even though results exceeded estimates, the company's shares declined 414. to 881/2.

Van Miert

fill Clear

Reality is finally coming to the fore in terms of expectations built into some of these companies," said Edward Riley. chief investment officer of Private Bank, a division of Bank of Boston Corp. "Unless these types of companies sustain bigh unit-volume growth, you'll see a margin squeeze as you go into

Among computer issues, Micron Technology fell 1/4, to 54/4, Microsoft declined 21/2, to 87/4, Bay Network slid 2, to 66, Intel fell 1/8, to 62¾, and Sun Microsystems slumped 114, to

But the drop in computer issues did not keep some Internet-related stocks from rallying. Netscape jumped 94, to 1101/2, and Sierra On-Line rose 23%, to 273%.

GTE rose 11/4, to 42, when the local telephone and cellular provider said earnings per share should grow at least 10 percent

AT&T also climbed, at 63%, up 1/8, and Teléfonos de Mexico gained 11%, to 271/4.

Shares of Time Warner rose 14, to 39%, as the entertainment company said it was, merging its music and film operations and that Michael; Fuchs, chairman of Home Box Office and the Warner Music Group, would be leaving the

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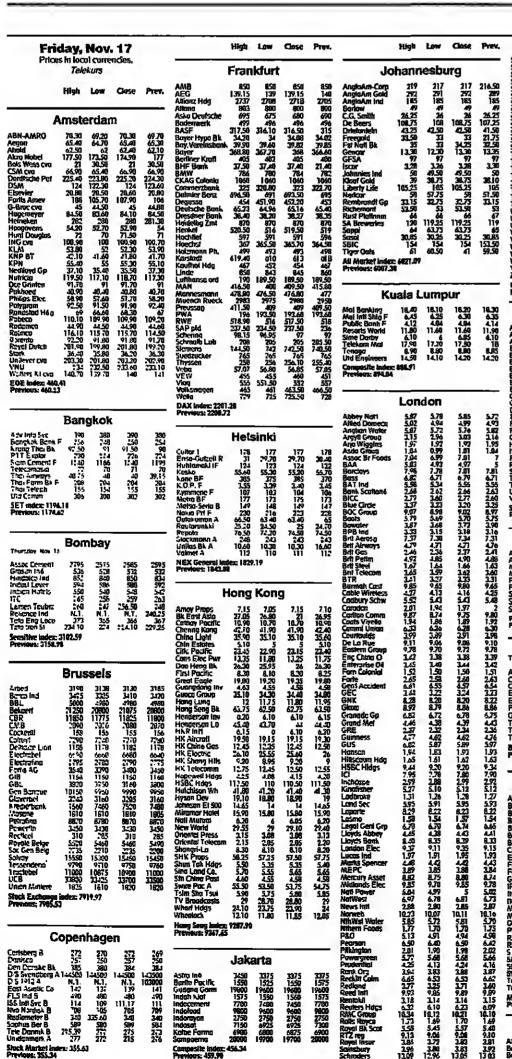
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Interneuron Pharmaceuticals rose 3¼, to 19¼, after a Food and Drug Administration panel backed the company's antiobesity drug, Redux.

Biovail rose after the pharmaceutical company declared a 2-for-1 stock split. Boise Cascade jumped 1, to

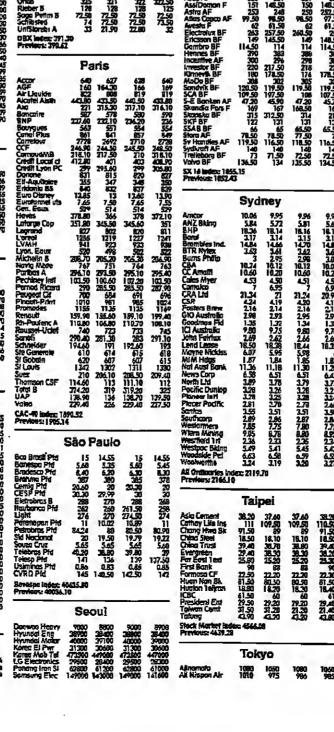
35½, after the paper company was named "single best idea" in the paper industry by an analyst at Prudential Securities. Bloomberg, AP

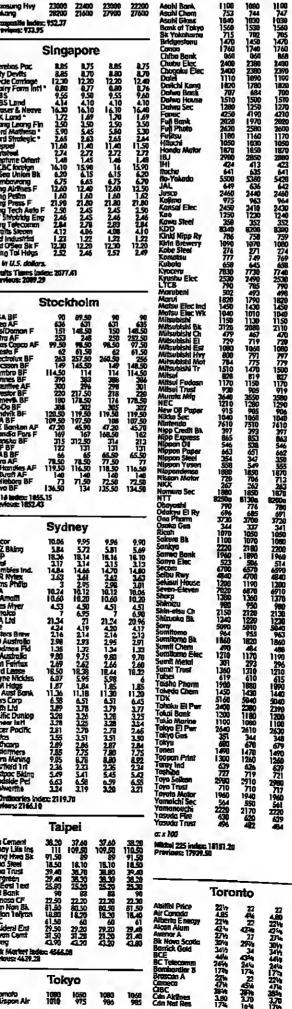
WORLD STOCK MARKETS

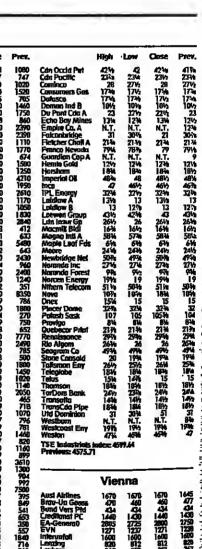


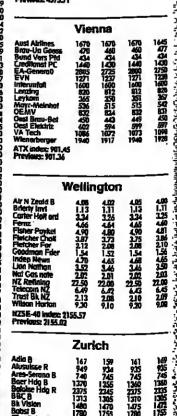
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Van Miert Says EU Will Clear SAS and Lufthansa's Pact

STOCKHOLM — The European Commission will approve the alliance between Scandinavian Airlines System and Lufthansa AG, Competition Commissioner Karel Van Miert said Friday after the two airlines agreed to concessions. In an interview with the Swedish daily Finans Tidningen, Mr. Van Miert said talks ended last week and said the commission, the EU's executive body, was expected to make an "official and definitive" decision in favor of the

KLM Ready to Fly Northwest Despite New Poison Pill

AMSTERDAM — KLM Royal Dutch Airlines said Friday it would not be looking for a new U.S. partner even though Northwest Airlines Corp. voted Thursday for a so-called pot-

son-pill takeover defense. Peter Wellhuner, a KLM spokesman, said the Dutch carrier's chairman, Pieter Bouw, had told Dutch journalists in a conference call that the Dutch carrier "wants to keep all options open.

But he denied Dutch newspaper reports that said KLM might look for another U.S. partner if Northwest persisted in restricting shareholder rights. KLM has an 18.8 per-

cent stake in Northwest, Northwest's poison-pill plan would be triggered if one party bought more than 19 percent of Northwest's stock and would give other shareholders the right to buy stock for less than the market price, diluting a

would-be acquirer's stake. KLM has an option to increase its stake in Northwest to 24.3 percent in 1998. The KLM executives who are members of Northwest's board voted against the plan because it would compel KLM to sell 5 percent of that increased stake alliance in early January.

The companies have accepted our demands," Mr. Van Miert said, adding that had they refused, the commission would have withheld its approval and effectively killed the deal.

The alliance, announced in May, is expected to come into force at the start of 1996. The parmership involves coordinating flights and marketing activities. Mr. Van Miert said the concessions made by the two airlines had included allowing competitors to operate flights between Scandinavia and Ger-

many, even during peak hours. On the basis of the negotiations with SAS, Lufthansa and the EU, we can expect that the EU Commission will approve the alliance in January or at the latest February," Jens Peter Skaarup, an SAS spokes-

man, said. The commission launched an inquiry into the alliance amid concern it would reduce competition on routes between Ger-

many and Scandinavia. The commission's conditions, outlined in August, included receiving guarantees from the two airlines that they would modify existing cooperation accords with other airlines if they posed a risk to

competition. The commission also said it wanted to see more flights introduced on major routes between Germany and Scandinavia in the next five years and wanted to ensure reasonable access for other airlines to fre-

quent-flyer programs. The chief executive officers of both companies signaled in a meeting with Mr. Van Miert that they would fulfill the EU conditions, a commission official said.

"There were clear indications they wanted a deal and they wanted to accept our conditions," the official said,

But he added that details still needed to be ironed out, notably on the issue of granting additional slots to other carriers. Still, he said, the commission

could give the green light for the alliance as early as next competitive and return to profitability. (Bloomberg, AP) month. (Bloomberg, AFX)

Russia Stands by Its Debt **Deal Will Open Door to Capital Markets**

By Nathaniel C. Nash New York Times Service

FRANKFURT — An agreement between Russia and a group of 600 creditor banks to reschedule payment of interest and principal on \$32.5 billion in loans is expected to end Russia's financial isolation and enable it to

borrow on world capital markets.

Deputy Prime Minister Oleg Davydov said Thursday that the agreement would also pave the way for a similar rescheduling of \$40 billion that Russia owes to Western governments.

He added that terms of the accord, which call for full payment over a 25-year period, would be the basis of repayment agreements for all of the country's \$120 billion is loans outstanding. Russia assumed the debts incurred by the republics of the former Soviet Union.

"Russia is going to repay its debt," Mr. Davydov said. "There is no forgetting of debt

or forgiving of debt in this agreement.''
Unlike other debt agreements between commercial banks and developing countries, the accord reached Thursday stipulated that Russia would repay the \$25.5 billion in principal owed to the banks and \$7 billion in interest.

Russia was given a seven-year grace period in which it would be required to pay only interest, not principal. Repayment of the principal will start in 2002.

Analysts were encouraged by the news but cautious, saying volumes of details including negotiations between the banks and the Russian government over exactly how much was owed to each bank had to be worked out. Talks on such matters often can go on for months.

Mr. Davydov said he expected to close the deal by the summer, but some analysts predicted this would not happen until the autumn of

Still, analysts said, the vote of confidence by such large foreign creditors as Deutsche Bank of Japan Ltd. would quickly enable Russia to for the Russian Parliament on Dec. 17.

borrow without the need for collateral, helping the country overhaul its economy and rebuild its industry.

You can say this is a landmark agreement Russia," said Susanne Gahler, an economist specializing in Eastern Europe with

J. P. Morgan in London. "For the first time since the breakup of the Soviet Union, Russia will be able to go to the financial markets as a normal borrower. It's difficult to do that when you are in default on bank loans.'

Mr. Davydov predicted that Russia would borrow \$9 billion in 1996 on world financial markets.

The new agreement differed from accords reached with several debt-burdened Latin American countries, often called Brady agreements after Nicholas Brady, a former U.S. secretary of the Treasury.

In the Brady accords, a large portion of the debt was forgiven, requiring creditor banks to take losses. The rest of the money owed was packaged into debt securities, enabling the banks to sell them in the secondary market and get them off their books.

The Russian debt deal only securitized back interest payments, while keeping the outstand-ing loans in loan form. Banks did not have to forgive any debt, meaning that the debt now on their books, valued in the market at roughly 33 cents on the dollar, will, with repayment, be

worth its full nominal amount. Christian Vontz, chairman of the bank advisory committee at Deutsche Bank, said that compared with other major debt accords, the four years it has taken the banks to reschedule Russian debt was quick. "Argentina took 10 years, Brazil 11 years and Poland 13 years," he said.

But getting Russia on its feet quickly is considered more important than for other countries because of political factors -- particularly with the risk of instability raised by President AG, Crédit Lyonnais SA and Industrial Bank Boris N. Yehsin's illness, as well as elections

Scania AB **Lifts Profit** At Investor

Bloomberg Business News STOCKHOLM - The in-

vestment concern Investor AB said Friday its nine-month profit rose 28 percent, buoyed by higher earnings at its Scania AB

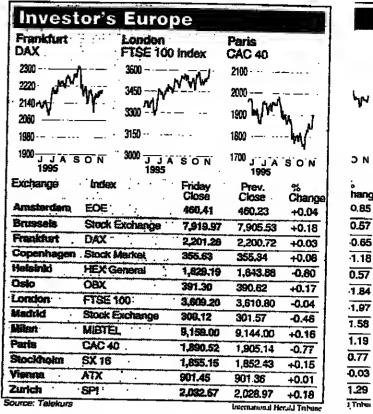
Investor said its net profit rose to 2.06 billion kronor (\$311 million) from 1.61 billion kronor in the like period

The company, the invest-ment arm of the Wallenberg family, has dominant or controlling stakes in many of Sweden's industrial powers, including the pharmaceuticals concern Astra AB, the telecommunications-equipment com-pany LM Ericsson AB, the electrical-appliance maker Electrolux AB, the roller-bearings maker SKF AB, the engineering company Atlas Copco AB and the vehicle maker Saab-Scania AB.

'The group's earnings con-tinued to develop positively. mostly because of earnings Scania," Investor said.

Investor's bearer shares fell 2 kronor to close at 218 after the results were announced.

The Wallenberg family, through Investor AB, the investment company Incentive AB and personal holdings, controls 15 of the 30 leading stocks in the Swedish OMX index, making it one of Europe's biggest industrial empires. The family is led by Peter Wallenberg. Investor's chairman,



Very briefly:

Adidas AG shares surged 12 percent, or 8 Deutsche marks, to close at 78 DM (\$55.48) in the stock's first day of trading on the Frankfurt stock exchange.

 Commerzbank AG hopes to raise 1.02 billion DM through an issue at 320 DM a share. The increase, which has been approved by sharebolders, would enable the bank to seize opportunities for acquisitions or for other ways of achieving growth

 Bertelsmann AG said its on-line services would start operating at the end of this month in the joint venture it has entered into with America Online.

· London Electricity PLC, one of four regional British electricity companies not to have attracted a takeover bid, moved to deter unwanted suitors by pledging a £200 million (\$311 million) super-dividend." In addition to declaring a special dividend of £1 a share, the company said it would raise its regular annual dividend about 20 percent in the year ending in March; it paid 29 pence a share last year.

 The European Commission proposed that all European Union import tariffs on CD-ROM drives be suspended for six months beginning Jan, 1. The EU has already suspended duties on CD-ROM drives used in the manufacture of computers.

 Glaxo Wellcome PLC's sales in the first 10 months of 1995 grew 5 percent at constant exchange rates, a rise the company 'creditable' in the face of a drop in sales of its leading product, Zantac. Glaxo, which bought Wellcome for \$14.6 billion this year, said sales excluding Zaniac grew 8 percent.

· France's former finance minister, Edmond Alphandery, is expected to be named chairman of Electricité de France at a board meeting Friday.

 Swiss Bank Corp. will decide by early next year whether and how to expand its operations in the United States. The bank said it was interested in building a wider U.S. distribution network for

Daimler Workers Set Talks to Save Jobs

they would bold talks with management this weekend to try to save thousands of jobs. Ingrid Lüllmann, a works council leader,

said talks with the company were at a "total standstill" and that the meetings were a last chance to avoid planned job cuts. Daimler-Benz Aerospace, which lost 1.6

billion Deutsche marks (\$1.14 billion) in the first half of the year, announced a major restructuring plan in late October and said it planned to slash 8,800 jobs to become more the next five years.

cuts with workers before making the plan BONN — Worker representatives of final Monday, but employee leaders said Daimler-Benz Aerospace AG said Friday the aircraft maker had turned a cold shoulder to their attempts to save jobs.

Labor leaders, anticipating the talks will not produce a breakthrough, have announced plans for one-day strikes at Daimler-Benz Aerospace's eight Airbus plants and for demonstrations across Germany.

The works council's board member, Werner Heinzmann, said improving business in the company's aerospace and defense units could mean 1,000 new jobs over

"There has been absolutely no change in the restructuring plan," he said, adding that some of the new positions could be filled by moving people within Daimler-Benz Aerospace.

Labor accuses management of contributing to the company's losses and says it is unfair that workers should shoulder the burden of the company's efforts to become more efficient. Works council leaders have sought ways to keep labor costs down that do not involve reducing the work force.

Daimler-Benz Aerospace, Germany's largest aircraft maker, said the cuts were

The company said it would discuss the Benz AG played do	in for parent Daimler- necessary to reduce its costs and enable it to instruments such as equities and derivatives. AFP, AP, AFX, Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder, Reuters
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Japan Won't Say Whether Trade **Pact Includes Rice**

OSAKA — U.S. Trade Rep-Friday that Japan had agreed to usefulness. liberalize its agricultural markets by 2010 as part of the Asia-pected "contentious" talks on Pacific Economic Cooperation over trade in photographic film forum's open-trade agreement

But while Mr. Kantor said APEC ministers had reached 'unanimous agreement'' on the plan's principles and dates, Japanese officials refused to clarify whether they and other members would fully open their rice markets, a politically explosive issue.

'All areas, including agriculture, are going to be covered" in an initiative 10 liberalize trade in the Pacific region by 2020, Mr. Kantor said.

ministers agreed Thursday, calls for industrialized economies to open their markets by 2010 and for developing economies to do so by 2020. The process of opening markets it to begin Jan.

The ministers' draft of the plan, to be announced by APEC leaders Sunday, contains 135 specific steps in 15 fields of

trade, Mr. Kantor said. Mr. Kantor also said Washington's accord with Tokyo on expanding access to the Japanese semiconductor market

must be renewed. accord, which was introduced 1996, commits Japan to buying at least 20 percent of its semiufacturers. Japanese officials percent to \$654.3 million.

deny that they agreed on any specific market share and say resentative Mickey Kantor said the chip accord has outlived its

> Mr. Kantor also said he exbetween America and Japan. Japanese officials have rebuffed U.S. requests for formal

negotiations on the issue. The United States has begun an investigation of Eastman Kodak Co.'s complaint that Fuji Photo Film Co. has conspired to limit the American company's share of the Japanese film market. Fuji has denied the charge and accused Kodak of engaging in unfair practices in the American market.

The plan, to which APEC | China's Imports Leap China's imports of agricultural products from the United States soared 279 percent in the first eight months of the year, Bloomberg Business News reported in a dispatch from Beijing

> ment figures. From January to August, the United States exported \$1.93 bilfion of agricultural goods to Chi-na, compared with \$693 million a year earlier.

citing U.S. Commerce Depart-

Exports to China of grains and feeds, including wheat, com and processed livestock feed, jumped to \$809.3 million from The United States says the \$116.5 million, according to the U.S. data. Raw and refined soyin 1991 and expires in July bean oil registered an even sharper increase, rising from \$11.5 million to \$300 million, conductors from foreign man- and raw cotton exports rose 34

Central Banks Take on the Market Four Asian Countries Pledge Mutual Currency Support

mberg Business News HONG KONG - Four Asian central

banks plan to band together to try to do what some of the world's richest countries cannot: control their currencies.

Less than a year after the devaluation of the Mexican peso cast a shadow over some Asian currencies as well, central bankers from Hong Kong, Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia have pledged to sign an agreement Monday designed to help them shore up their exchange rates if their currencies begin to weaken.

"If there are measures you can take to safeguard the currency, why not take them?" said a Hong Kong government official. "It's common sense."

Traders, bankers and fund managers aren't so sure, however. Many doubt that these central banks - or any others can manage their exchange rates when more than \$1 trillion is traded daily in the foreign-exchange market. Buying or selling by any single country, they say, amounts to a drop in the bucket.

To some, the new alliance smacks of bravado that may only invite speculation that these central bankers see trouble ahead. "Anyone who wants to take on these currencies isn't going to be put off," said Andrew Hunt, chief economist at Thornton Management (Asia) Ltd.

Under the agreement, the central banks effectively will be able to borrow U.S. dollars from each other by pledging se-curities as collateral. Each could then use those dollars to huv its own currency in the market, should it lose value...

The alliance is the fruit of an emer-gency meeting held in January at the request of Joseph Yam, the chief executive of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority. That meeting came as the Hong Kong, Thai and Indonesian currencies were slumping amid concern they might fall victim to Mexico-style devaluations. Some of the central banks raised interest rates to help fend off currency traders.

speculating against their currencies. That do it now could cause one or two specsort of information-sharing is a hig part of the new alliance.

Still, devaluations of currencies in Europe and elsewhere - Britain, Italy and Spain have all been humbled by the markets - have taught investors and central bankers alike that trying to strong-arm exchange rates can be futile. Even the Group of Seven leading industrialized nations has often had trouble trying to manage the world's benchmark currency, the U.S. dollar.

Some of the central bankers concede that the support they are giving one another is as much moral as financial

"This idea is something similar to G-7 or other regional groups that come lo-gether for mutual benefit," said an assistant governor of the Bank of Thailand. "This will be a psychological defense as well as an actual defense."

It remains to be seen whether central bankers can reassure investors who fear that renewed weakness in the Mexican peso could affect the world's emerging markets. The Mexican currency's drop of about 10 percent drop against the dollar this month has already caused considerable fallout in some Asian financial markets.

In Indonesia, stocks fell this week amid concern that speculators were about to target the ripiah. The Indonesian currency has dropped 3.8 percent against the dollar this year. On Friday, the Philippine central bank raised rates to defend that country's currency, also called the peso.

"Investors get jittery with the Mexican peso all over the place," said Al Albusharif, an emerging-markets specialist with Bank of Montreal in Chicago. That means now is a good time for the Asian central banks to make a show of strength, he said.

But others aren't so sure. Reports that the central banks are taking action may only raise more questions in investors' Since then, the four countries have minds, causing the whole exercise to back has said repeatedly that it will stay.

been comparing notes on who might be fire. "The very fact that they're looking to ulators to say maybe they're expecting something to go wrong down the road." said Callum Henderson, a senior currency strategist at MMS International in New

> At the Hong Kong Monetary Authority, that kind of talk is played down.
>
> The history of the Hong Kong dollar is stable, and we think the track record speaks for itself." said Osbert Lam, a spokesman

In Thailand or Malaysia, some analysts say, central bankers may trumpet the move as a sign that these countries, plagued by chronic inflation and currentaccount deficits, are prepared to defend their currencies.

Thailand, which spent \$400 million in two days to prop up its currency in January, has just \$36 million in foreignexchange reserves left. The Thai baht, which is linked to a basket of currencies in which the U.S. dollar is heavily weighted, has dropped just 0.2 percent against the American currency this year.

'One of the reasons we can gather support from our neighbors is they know we are not living beyond our means," a Bank of Thailand official said. Although Thailand has a current-account deficit equal to 6 percent of its gross domestic product, the government has run a budget surplus for eight consecutive years.

Hong Kong, of course, has its own problems. The British territory, which has \$58 hillion set aside to protect the Hong Kong dollar's link to the U.S. dollar, faces the uncertainty of its return to Chinese rule in less than two years.

Even though the territory holds the world's seventh-largest foreign exchange reserves, some people are concerned that the fixed rate of about 7.73 Hong Kong dollars to the U.S. dollar will one day come under attack. The Hong Kong gov-ernment, which created the link in 1983,

Investor's Asia Hong Kong Hang Seng Singapore Straits Times Tokyo Nikkel 225 20000 14000 J J A S O N Exchange Close Hang Seng 9,287.90 9,367.65 -0.85 Hong Kong 2.077.41 2,089.29 -0.57 Singapore Streits Times Ali Ordinaries 2,119.70 2,108.10 +0.65 Tokyo Mildel 225 18,151.20 17,939.52 +1.18 Kuala Lumpur Composite 886.91 894.04 -0.57 1,174.62 +1.84 Bangkok SET 1.196.18 Composite Index +1.97 Taipei Stock Market Index 4,566.08 4,639.28 -1.58 Manile 2,291.40 -1.19 PSE 2.264.08 Composite Index 456.34 -0.77 Jakarta 459.90 Wellington NZSE-40 2,155.57 2,155.02 +0.03 -1.29 3,102.59 3,143.18 Bombay Sensitive Index Source: Telekurs

Very briefly:

Malaysian Airline System Bhd.'s first-half net profit rose 5 percent, to 154.2 million ringgit (\$60.9 million), and the airlin cited increased efficiency. The result included an extraordinar gain from an insurance claim on a Fokker 50 plane that crashed i September. Excluding the gain, profit rose to 139.5 millio ringgit. The airline also plans to incorporate its engineering ancargo divisions into subsidiaries.

Kenwood Corp. of Japan blamed stagnating economies for it 3.92 billion yen (\$38.5 million) pretax loss in the six months to September after a 1.17 hillion yen profit a year earlier. Revenue a the audio equipment maker fell 5 percent, to 101.26 hillion yen.

Wako Research Institute said parent-company pretax profit of 502 Japanese companies listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchangerose an average of 23.7 percent in the six months to September with the paper and pulp industry reporting the largest year-on-yea rises while real-estate companies posted the worst results,

 Kyocera Corp. plans to set up a joint venture in electronic partwith Shanghai Instrumentation & Electronics Holding Group in December aimed at meeting increasing demand in China and other parts of Asia.

 Industrial and Commercial Bank of China extended 6. billion yuan (\$760 million) of emergency loans to 340 cashstrapped emerprises in the past month, after the governmen tightened its credit policy, Xinhua news agency reported.

· China appealed for increased foreign cooperation and in vestment in its offshore oil and gas sector, saying vast minera reserves were going untapped.

The Philippines' National Statistics Office said neither the Philippine president nor any cabinet officials had pressured the agency to change inflation numbers. Officials from the opposition accused the government of manipulating the data to create a better picture of the economy after the release Thursday of revised

Daewoo Group of South Korea and Vietnamese Steel Corp. plan to build a joint-venture \$1.3 billion steel mill in Vietnam to supply Asian markets. AP. AFP. AFX. Bloomberg, Reuters

Pioneer Sinks Deeper

Bloomberg Business News

TOKYO - Pioneer Electronic Corp. disclosed Friday it fell deeper into deficit in the three months ended Sept. 30 as sales slumped worldwide, product prices fell and the strong

Japanese yen hit revenue from exports.

The maker of audio and video products reported a net loss on its worldwide operations of 2.44 billion yen (\$23.9 million) for the period. It had a net loss of 1.02 billion yen in the like period last year.

Strong sales of automotive audio products were not enough to offset falling audio and video sales and the effects of the strong yen, said the company's senior managing director and chief financial officer, Masaaki Sono. "We will definitely be back in the black in the next fiscal year," Mr. Sono said.

TNT Agrees to Sell

Compiled in the Staff From Despatches

could have significant impact on

stake in Ansett Airways to Air

The two-stage transaction, valued at 425 million Australian

dollars (\$313.8 million), is con-

tingent on the granting of a waiv-

er of the Australian law that lim-

its foreign stakes in Australian

The accord also must be ap-

proved by New Zealand an-

utrust authorities because both

Air New Zealand and Ansett,

through its Ansett New Zealand

subsidiary, operate domestic services in New Zealand.

will sell Air New Zealand 25

percent of Ansett for 200 mil-

lion dollars. Air New Zealand

will then have an option to buy

TNT's remaining 25 percent stake, valued at 225 million dol-

take up the option. TNT can buy

back the first 25 percent stake.

Air New Zealand to provide as much as 50 million dollars to-

ward TNT's share of any new capital to be injected into Ansett

and for TNT to support the es-

jablishment of a commercial al-

liance between Air New Zealand and Ansett

of a year of off-and-on efforts

by Air New Zealand to gain a

stake in Anselt and with it a

foothold in the Australian do-

Ansett is owned equally by

TNT, an Australian transporta-

Hon company, and News Corp.,

the global media concern con-

trolled by Rupen Murdoch, Air

New Zealand's acquisition

Jalks with News Corp. this year

Once a lucrative source of

revenue for TNT and News

Corp., Ansett has become a drag

on carnings as aggressive com-

petition from Qantas Airways has hurt profit in the domestic

Ansen's nei profit fell two-

thirds in the year ended June 30,

to 51.5 million Australian dol-

lars, and the airline said recent-

ly it would post a loss for the

in Wellington, the chief ex-

current financial year.

mestic-travel market.

were unsuccessful.

market.

The agreement marks the end

If Air New Zealand does not

The agreement also requires

lars, until Feb. 15, 1998.

Under the agreement, TNT

airlines to 49.9 percent.

New Zealand.

SYDNEY - In a move that

Ansett Stake to ANZ

air transport in the South Pa-cific. TNT Ltd. agreed Friday to sell half or all its 50 percent results for the current year.

Despite 1st-Half Slide, Honda Raises Forecast

TOKYO - Honda Motor Co. said Fripercent, to 1.01 trillion yen. day its global profit dropped by more than one-third in the first half as falling sales full year to March 31 would rise 5.6 peroverseas and a higher yen outweighed surging sales in Japan.

But the carmaker raised its full-year earnings forecast, citing the successful launch of new models in the domestic market and a decline in the Japanese currency in recent months.

Honda said its consolidated net income fell 36.4 percent, to 24.2 billion yen (\$237 million), in the six months ended Sept. 30. Sales fell 1.8 percent, to 1.955 trillion yen.

cent, to 12.2 billion yen, as sales fell 0.8

cent, to 65 billion yen, compared with its original forecast that profit would fall to 45 billion yen.

Some analysts were even more sanguine. "Honda's group net profit is likely to be 75 billion yen in 1995/96, mainly because of strong demand for Civic models in North America." said Noriyuki Matsushima, a senior analysi at Nikko Research Center.

In the previous financial year, Honda's Second-quarter net income fell 17.6 per- earnings included a one-time gain from the

sale of its stake in Britain's Rover Group PLC. The carmaker said business was improving enough for it to forecast that its net profit would exceed last year's results, even including the extraordinary gain.

In Japan, Honda's sales have been buoyed by strong demand for its newer models, such as the Odyssey minivan and the new Civic. The CR-V sports-utility vehicle, unveiled in October, also appears to be a hit. Honda's Japanese sales rose 8 percent in the first half, to 299,000 vehicles.

The company's slock rose 40 yen to close at 1,870. The carmaker announced its results after trading ended.

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

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THE BEST SERVICE 24 HOURS A DAY holder in a company that backed a domestic competitor. International Foreign Exchange Corporation S.A. (Reuters, Bloomberg) 86 Bis Route de Frontenex 1208 GENEVA - Switzerland Keating Blasts CRA Prime Minister Paul Keating in Japan for the APEC summit

said the failure to solve a dispute between the Australian Council of Trade Unions and CRA Ltd. had arisen from an attempt by the mining company to "bust unionization at its sites" and bring down wages, AFX News reported from Osaka.

ecutive of Air New Zealand, Jim

McCrae, said the initial purchase

would be funded from existing

He acknowledged that

Ansett's contribution to earn-

ings would be "pretty neutral"

the second year but said the carrier had "very good prospects" and "an excellent

The deal also calls into the

question the future of the 19.4

percent stake in Air New

Zealand held by Qantas, Aus-

tralia's main international car-

rier. Analysts said that because

Ansett operated a growing num-

ber of international services

likely to remain a major share-

from Australia, Qantas was un-

position in the market."

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GARTMORE INDOSUEZ FUNDS Fonds commun de placement

39, Allée Scheffer, NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION IN THE PRESS

Unitholders are informed of the following changes to become effective on 18th December, 1995: 1. Change of name The Management Company and Custodion of Gartmore Indosuez Funda-have agreed to change the name of the Fund to Groupe Indosuez Funda. Further the Management Company has changed its name from Cartmore Indosuez Funda Management Company to Groupe Indosuez Funda.

Management Company.

Holders of bearer units are invited as from 18th December 1998 to tender to Banque Indosuez Lusembourg S.A., 39 Allé Scheffer. L-2520 Lusembourg, their original certificates to be stamped or exchanged against new pertilicates.

As from 18th January 1996 the current certificates or those not so stampwill be no longer of good delivery at the Luxembourg stock exchange.

2. Widening of investment Policies and Techniques

2. Widening of investment Policies and Techniques

To improve the way certain Portfolios are managed, the following changes
will be made:

(i) The Equity Portfolio generally may also make investments in specialised
closed and investment funds where up to 25% of a Portfulio's net assets
may be investment may result in a duplication of fees and expenses, except
in the case of funds promoted and managed by the promoter of the Fund
where any subscription charges will be waived. In the case of
investment in closed-end investment funds which are not subject in
their country of origin to permanent supervision by a supervisory.

investment in closed-end investment funds which are not subject in their country of origin to permanent supervision by a supervisory authority set up by law in order to ensure the protection of investors, the Fund may be exposed to larger risks, (such as less frequent redemptions, delayed payment or non-receipt of redemption monies and less protective judicial structures). Such investments in such non-supervised investment funds may not exceed 10% of the Portfolio total net assets. Where this is the only way of gaining access to closed markets, the Fund may in respect of a Portfolio invest through a sholly naned investment vehicle provided that this investment vehicle is effectively controlled by the fund and it complies with the investment policies and restrictions for the time being in force of the Fund and of the Portfolio concerned.

restrictions for the time being in force of the Fund and of the Partfolio concerned.

[ii) The investment policy of the Oeveloping Markets Portfolin will be widened to allow for investment in debt securities of companies listed on the larger Eligible Markets of the world which derive a significant proportion of their profits from cuerging economies and debt securities of the governments of emerging markets.

[iii) In order to enable the Reserve Portfolio to benefit from the reduced Lavembourg tax of 0,03 per cent per annum of their net asset value, the investment policies of the Uollar Reserve Portfolio, the French Franc Reserve Portfolio, the Deutsche Marks Reserve Portfolio and the Yen Reserve Portfolio have been amended so as to provide that the Reserve Portfolio esclusively invest in negotiable debt instruments expressed in their relevant eutrencies of denomination, being US Oollars. French Francs, Occusche Mark and Yen respectively or espressed in other currencies fully hedged into the relevant currency of denomination of the Portfolios and which are either debt instruments having, at the time of their acquisition, an initial or residual maturity of not in excess of 12 mouths; or debt instruments having a remaining maturity of more than 12 mouths, but in respect of which the Portfolio will not have as exposure of more than 12 months because of financial instruments entered into in connection with such securities: or floating rate securities provided their interest rate is adapted to market conditions at least once a year.

[iv) The Fund's authorised investment techniques and the use of certain instruments in this effect have been expanded so as to allow for investment in repurchase agreements. reverse repurchase agreements and other similar instruments.

2. Addition of further investment restrictions To comply with investment restrictions requested by the Securities and Futures Commission in Hong Kong, in order to register the Fund there, the Fund may not acquire for the account of any Portfolio any option in respect of securities or any warrants, if as a result thereof the value of all underlying securities in respect of which that Portfolio holds options or warrants that are not held for hedging purposes would exceed 15% of the Net Asset Value of the Portfolio.

4. Change of conversion charge To compensate for increasing costs in administering the Fund, the Management company will as from the 18th December, 1905, impose a conversion charge on every conversion between Portfolios, of up to 0,51% of the value of the Units being converted.

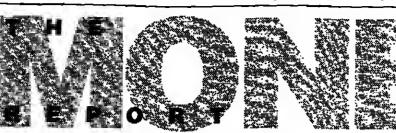
5. Change of Investment Adviser As from 18th December 1995 Indosucz Asset Management S.A. of 44 rue de Courcelles, 75008 Paris will act as Investment Adviser to the France Portfolio and the Germany Portfolio in replacement of Cartmore Investment

To reduce uperational and administrative charges while allowing a wider diversifiration of investment, the Management Company may decide that part or all the assets of any Portfolio will be co-managed with assets belonging to other Lanembourg collective investments schemes. Unitholders who cannot agree with the above changes may redeem at no

A revised prospectus to be dated December 1998 may on request be obtained from Banque Indosuez Luxembourg S.A.

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FIRST COLUMN

The Land **That Time Forgot**

F in doubt, ask an insurer: Size is everything. In other parts of the financial world it isn't how hig your bottom line is, but what you do with it that counts. In this respect insurance seems to be the Land That Time Forgot, a bastion of unreconstructed, old-fash-

ioned financial machismo. Shareholder rights, for example, are an alien concept to many insurance companies. The industries in the United States and Britian may have moved, somewhat begrudgingly, along the path toward taking account of company members' wishes and their desire for a good financial return. But in many cases the antiquated notion still prevails that the company

Yet if shareholders have a tough time, it is a picnic in the woods compared to what policyholders are put through. Policyholders often find themselves dealing with gigantic institutions that between them count for a huge chunk of the market in a given product. The result can be a culture of complacency, where one leviathan does not worry about the prices offered hy those operating in the same field - institutions that would normally be known as "the competition."

The expatriate seeking insurance is perhaps worst served of all, Problems of language and culture are typically most acute when individuals first arrive in a country - just wheo insurance cover must be arranged and shopping around is most difficult.

Once more, competition among the few international insurers - or, rather, lack of it - is to hlame. If you expect to move from Berlin to Hong Koog some time next year, you will probably be re-luctant to buy locally. The alternative an internationally portable product may well have a price that helps explain how these insurers got so hig.

Forecast for Insurance Stocks: High Pressure to Cut Costs

By Judith Rehak

OMEOWNERS who take out fire, flood and earthquake insurance for their residences, or drivers who buy collision insurance for their cars, are protecting them-selves and their investments.

But what about investing in propertycasualty insurers, the companies that sell these policies?

At the outset of this year, their prospects in the United States looked decidedly bleak. The property-casualty insurance industry was still reeling from 1994, when catastrophes like the Northridge, California earthquake racked up losses of \$10.4 billion, and winter storms and floods tacked on another \$5 billion, making it the second costliest year ever.

To make matters worse, rapidly rising interest rates throughout the year battered the U.S. fixed income markets, where insurance companies invest the bulk of their reserves, making inroads into their value.

"Most property-casualty stocks got cre-mated," said Gloria Vogel, senior insurance analyst at Ladenberg, Thalmann & Co., a New York brokerage.

But as the end of 1995 approaches, the scenario is markedly changed. Interest rates finally started back down in February and continued falling, causing the value of insurers' investments to rebound.

And even Mother Nature has been more cooperative. Though there were an unusually large oumber of "name" storms this year, most of them didn't hit the U.S. mainland. "The industry was lucky be-cause only hurricane Opal did and that will cost \$2 hillion," said Ms. Vogel. "But eveo so, this year's losses haven't been too bad.

Indeed, a survey of 23 major propertycasualty insurers by Business Insurance, a trade publication, showed a 20.4 percent improvement in net income for the first half of this year over the same period in 1994. when claims were flooding in from the Northridge earthquake.

One thing you hear a lot less of these days, however, is how costly natural disprices of insurance premiums. The traInsurance

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costly self-insuring, or consultants who advise on controlling their risks.

The widely expected upswing in premium prices after Hurricane Andrew hit the industry with \$21 billion in losses in 1992 never really materialized. "It was supposed to be three years up, but it lasted about six months," said Elizabeth Malone, insurance analyst for Legg Masoo Wood Walker, a Baltimore firm, ooting that Wall Street stepped in and raised some \$10 billion for insurers that offset much of the loss.

With diminished prospects for improved pricing, analysts say, the top performers in the industry are building profitability by tighter management and attention to costs, hanging on to more of their premium dollars by paying out less in claims, and controlling their losses by more careful policy-writing.

Insurers are also saving money by cracking down on fraudulent claims and in some cases, settling claims rather than going through lengthy, expensive court battles. And they are streamlining by eliminating jobs and selling off unprofitable and unrelated operations.

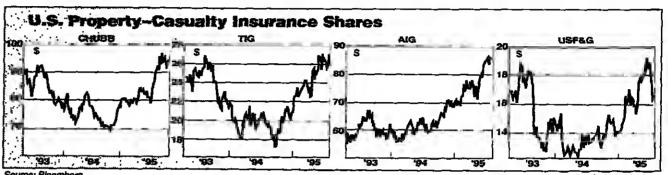
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criteria she looks at. "First, there's a continuing flight to quality by customers, as rating agencies have become more proactive, and second, you're seeing the most growth in companies that have the ability to expand internationally."

She favors two industry blue chips, American International Group and Chuhh, even though both have already had sub-stantial share price run-ups this year.

AIG, widely viewed as the best-managed company in the business, and a powerhouse asters will finally jump-start the sagging in the American property-casualty arena, already gets about half its revenues from ditional market cycle of three up, then three overseas, where it sells mostly life insurdown years has see the downside stretch out. Soft pricing has prevailed since 1987, following a sharp run-up in prices that caused many companies to turn to less driver of future earnings growth. "They're down in the by the bottom of the bo





Citing her specific stock picks, Ms. Vo-gel adds that there are two more important fine arts and antiques. A perennial favorite of many analysts, the New Jersey company hit some rough spots last year, scaring away investors when it ran into problems with its small group health insurance in New York.

> Now recovered, its stock has rebounded from a 52-week low of \$68.75 to \$93 last week, and Ms. Vogel likes its strong balance sheet and growing global reach. Chuhh is expanding into Asia and Europe, and testing the waters in Latin America. Although from a small base, its non-U.S. business is growing 25 percent a year, compared with 6 percent in the U.S.

> Despite her preference for big blue-chips, Ms. Vogel has one small, well-man-

insurance. The insurer sold some \$500 million of premiums in the past 12 months. compared to AIG, which did \$12.2 hillion in property-casualty premiums alone. "Allied isn't oo most people's radar screen because it's so small,' she said.

While Ms. Malone at Legg Mason agrees that AIG and Chubb are excellent core holdings, she is taking a different approach to property casualty companies. "I see other opportunities in secondary stocks that have greater upside poteotial." she said. She favors lesser-known insurers where new managements are positioning themselves for earnings improvements by restructuring.

cutting costs and controlling expenses. One such group is TIG Holdings, a spinoff from Transamerica Corp. which went public only two years ago. As part of its restructuring, the company has exited the middle market commercial husiness for property and fire coverage - where stiff competition is holding down prices, and sold off its improfitable personal lines, as well as getting out of catastrophe insurance for earthquakes.

Because they are so highly leveraged, a little bit can make a big impact on their they'll have an eveo bigger upside."

bottom line," she said, "We're looking for their \$1 a share earnings in 1994 to double to \$2.05 this year, and go to \$2.50 in 1996."

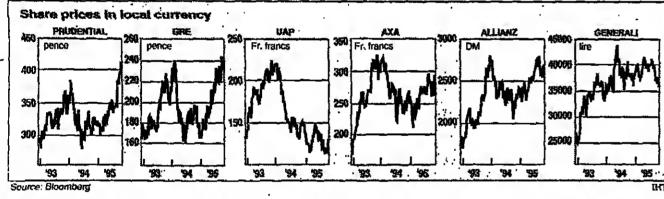
Ms. Malone is equally bullish on USF&G, a Baltimore insurer that tottered on the edge of bankruptcy in 1990, but has revived under a new chairman and executive team. "They sold off their noninsurance businesses, and refocused their strategy on more specialized niche husiness like huilding and road construction, where

they could get bener pricing, "she said.
She is also impressed with the company's emphasis on technology to reduce the ex-pense of writing and delivering policies, as

well as pricing them more effectively.

USF&G shares, which sank to \$6 in 1990, are curreotly around \$16.50, Ms. Malone expects them to reach \$23 over the next year and a half. "They still have a lot of cost savings going forward," she said.
"You're not huying these companies

because of the market," she added. You're buying a company that will benefit because of cost-cutting and other efficiencies, so it's a bottom-up approach. And if we ever get some pricing increases,



Euro-Giants Learn Size Isn't Everything

By Martin Baker

TS critics are vociferous. Variously accused of gigantism, anti-competitiveness, lack of amhition and managerial arrogance, the European insurance industry would appear to have few

Unloyed and old-fashioned, there are does not even merit the homogeneity of being called an industry. The argument runs that it is merely a collection of large corporations acting locally - and thinking

All of this hostility might make the wily nvestor think that now is the time to buy. After all, contrarian investment analysts ay that assets are financially at their most itiractive when least loved by the ma-

The underlying truth, however, seems to e that European insurers are far from a slanker "buy" recommendation. What the ector does appear to have is pockets of apportunity for the discerning and concientious investor.

Overall, I'm not excited by European asurers, although the Dutch companies do eem to consistently attempt to offer shareolders some value for their investment," aid Angus Runciman, an insurance anlyst at London investment house Barclays

e Zocie Wedd.
"The problem is that some European isurers have this outmoded approach in tal they mink they absolutely know hat a best for the interests of the company nd the shareholders. The logic of their gument is that if you seek to realize value i the short-term, you can never build for

ac future. The moves to open up individual counies insurance markets - such as those of ermany and the Scandinavian countries - has met with a lukewarm response from

You have to look at everything from the vestment point of view and ask what the vestor gets out of it," says Mr. Runci-

Sinion Rudolph, an executive director of organ Stanley in London, concurs: "Libalization and the dismantling of quasiriels tend to work to the benefit of the usumer rather than the producer," he

Michael Wheelhouse, an insurance an-

- though not all of them will necessarily vestors who rush to buy, "this seems to be

"I'm not wildly keen on Allianz," he says, referring to Europe's largest insurer. "As financial reporting becomes more Paris, or UAP, as having considerable asser open and daylight is allowed into the company's accounts, you might oot find the of acquisitions across Europe is seen in bottomless reserves that some people like to imagine. While Allianz may have other a factor that may not yet be fully discounted attractions as a stock, it certainly iso't a buy in the share price. many who argue that European insurance on the strength of favorable surprises as accounting standards change."

Mr. Rudolph argues that the numbers emerging from European insurers over the last few years have been fairly encouraging, with a modest level of claims and premium income attaining high levels. Mr. Wheelhouse believes that premium

income is far from the most important el-ement in analyzing European insurance But the key attraction of the company,

buying is the asset base, and in that sense income from underwriting insurance risk is really secondary."

Investors who bought French insurers, insurer rather than an Italian company. and their extensive holdings in domestic property, will recognize the logic of that

French insurance stocks have, in the main, been lackluster, partly because of the whether the worst losses of French msurers' property subsidiaries have already been written off. There is, however, considerable sympathy for many companies which are regarded as having been viracquire banks and their property-backed loan portfolios — in the 1980s.

But there are bright spots in the French insurance landscape. Mr. Wheelhouse regards Axa-Midi as "completely different from the rest of the French industry. The way Axa is run is very exciting, and its acquisitions of Equitable in the U.S. and National Mutual Life of Australasia in the ucts like automobile and household inantipodes are excellent acquisitions.

"This is a stock you can safely buy as a core holding." Mr. Wheelhouse said. "You couldn't have said that about any French insurer five years ago."

Simon Randolph regards Axa as one of the few genuinely international European vot at Nomura Research Institute, adds insurers: "Axa stands out head and shoulif the liberalization of the German in-ders above the rest as the best insurance rance market may bring some surprises company in France." But, he cautions in-

reflected in the share price.

Emerging from the pack in France, some analysts point to Union des Assurances de strength, although its aggressive program many quarters as having been expensive -

Italian giant Generali is described in glowing terms hv one New York analyst, who requested anonymity, as "one of the best and most underestimated companies in terms of pursuing a strategy for the continent of Europe. That strategy has most often been to form alliances and joint ventures in Europe, rather than trying to

according to Mr. Wheelhouse, is Gener-"The European industry has long been protected — cosseted, you might say — by its various governments. There has always without going for the kind of high-profile without going for the kind of high-profile acquisitions that the French embarked upbeen the scope to hide profits in assets, so acquisitions that the French embarked up-when you buy an insurer what you are on. The result has been some excellent some excellent business effected in Eastern and Central Europe. You might almost say that Generali is really a Central European

One question mark that hangs over the company, however, concerns its involve-ment with Axa. Generali has invested hundreds of millions of dollars in the French insurer without having a significant say in continued weakness of the French real-estate market. Analysts are divided as to seeking to simplify the situation and that they wish to do business together.

Analysts, however, are waiting for something more concrete than mere words to emerge from the situation.

London may remain the world's insurtually forced by the French government to ance center, but individual British companies are way behind their Continental rivals in terms of size. Prudential Corp. PLC, Britain's biggest life insurer, made a respectable £335 million (\$520 million) over the first half of the year.

But analysts regard the company as suf-fering from the British malaise of too heavy a dependency on cyclical personal prodsurance. This, plus strong competition in the U.K. marketplace, is seen as hampering the long-term earnings growth of companies such as Prudential and Guardian Royal Exchange.

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

In Europe's 'Single' Market, Expatriates Can and Should Shop Around

By Barbara Wall

OST people will buy life insurance at some time or another. But if you are relocated to another country, what exactly are your options?

Within Europe there would appear to be four choices: An insurance policy bought locally;

 A policy purchased from a company in another member state:

 A pan-European life insurance contract, available mainly io Britain;

 An international policy from one of the many offshore insurance companies that specialize in the expatriate market.

Ian Nicholson, director of the International Consultancy Group, an independent financial adviser in Paris, says the choice of insurance contract will depend largely on the length of the expatriates assignment.

If the client is intending to stay in France long-term, and is interested in purchasing straightforward term insurance, we would usually recommend that he buy a local insurance policy," he says. "While it may be possible to find cheaper cover in another member state there will always be a currency risk to consider.

'Opportunities do exist to buy multicurrency investment products with life in-surance attached," Mr. Nicholson said. 'However, the insurance element is usually very small.

It was widely assumed that the European Third Life Insurance Directive, which came into effect in April 1994, would standardize insurance law throughout the EU and stimulate competition.

In fact, while the EU law governing the life-insurance industry is smoothing out, the dynamics of the member markets remain very fragmented.

According to BEUC, the European consumers association, the competitive situanother — from highly diversified in Britain

THE ACTION OF THE PROPERTY OF

and Greece to highly concentrated in Italy. policies is that investors are unable to a group of actuaries in London, says he market forces set premiums. These include advises clients who move around frequent-Britain, Ireland, France and the Netherlands. The more expensive countries — Greece, Portugal and Germany - are those where central authorities continue to play a role in setting prices. Consumers in Portugal, for example, could pay up to five times the premium of consumers in Ireland for a similar insurance contract.

Faced with such huge price differentials, it would seem to make sense for consumers from high tariff countries to shop cross border. However, language difficulties, administrative barriers and tax restraints continue to thwart opportunities for crossborder insurance sales.

Despite these hurdles, a handful of companies offer pan-European term insurance to expatriates and consumers from other

insurer Nationale Nederlanden offer term insurance in a range of currencies. Nationale Nederlanden will also provide proposal forms in English. Several other British insurers offer sterling-denominated contracts to non-residents, though they may insist that the client have a bank account in Britain.

An increasing number of insurance companies are setting up offices in Dublin and Luxembourg to market pan-European in-vestment products into Europe. Investors investor's country of residence.

Old Mutual International in Dublin offers single- and regular-premium savings products with optional life insurance addons. Premiums can be paid in Deutsche marks, Dutch guilders, French francs and based on U.K. term-insurance rates.

The main drawback with many of these

Not surprisingly, the countries where switch between currencies when they would be "very surprised" if an insurance premiums are lowest tend to be those where move to another country. Mr. Nicholson ly to consider taking out an international insurance policy with an offshore insurer.

A local contract, or a pan-European product, may not be ideal if the client relocates outside of Europe," he says. The insurance company is unlikely to have much experience of other markets and will probably charge a much higher premium, or decline to offer cover.'

Generali in Guernsey is one of the many offshore life companies that specialize in the expatriate market. It offers term insurance and regular savings plans with built-in life cover in multiple currencies. lients can also switch between currencies if they relocate to another country.

Many of our clients require a portable insurance contract that offers cover in a number of different countries," a Generali Cygnet Life in Britain and the Dutch spokesman says. "Local insurance con-

tracts are rarely portable.

'Moreover, individuals could lose accrued benefits on such policies if they relocate within the vesting period, which is typically three years," the spokesman says. Most EU member states allow citizens to deduct insurance premiums from taxable income provided the policy is bought lo-cally. Generali acknowledges that it is unlikely that citizens would be able to do that if the policy were bought from an offshore insurer - though even within Europe it is can choose to add life insurance to the not altogether clear if citizens can take investment product so that the premiums advantage of home-country tax deduction qualify for favorable tax treatment in the rules when they buy insurance from a company based in another member state.

F life insurance is fast becoming one of the least parochial sectors of the European insurance industry — at least according to some observers -Belgian francs. Michael Lang. business the lack of progress at "harmonizing" development manager for Old Mutual, says automobile insurance across the EU makes that the cost of the life-insurance element is up for it - and, say experts, it is likely to for some time to come.

John Beck, a consultant with Tillinghast

company offered local automobile insurance rates to a oon-resident foreigner.

"Motor insurance underwriters calculate premium levels according to such factors as levels of car theft, road accidents and road congestion in the home market," Mr. Beck explains. "As the extent of these risks vary widely throughout the EU, it would be impractical to apply local rates in another member state.

Some automobile insurers do market their products in other European countries. However, the premium rates are generally be tailored to the risks inherent to the target market. One underwriter notes that a oumber of

started to market products in Germany - a country that, until recently, was effectively closed to foreign insurers. What does all this mean for the in-

British, French and Dutch insurers have

dividual insured? Mr. Beck does not expect the increased competition that has resulted from the European single market in non-life insurance

will work to reduce automobile insurance

Car insurance Life insurance* 50 \$484 40 Male Age: 30 Luxembourg \$472 Belgium \$569 \$995 \$2,149 Cygnet Life Switzerland \$458 1,763 Swiss Life Netherl. 294 645 \$392 1,390 Albany Life 268 632 352 1,479 Scottish Equitable Germany \$323 559 258 1.948 Sackville Insurance \$297 363 1,951 Generali Guernsey 286 692 341 2,479 Zunch Life Interni. 545 1,095 \$205 419 1,182 Nationale Nederlanden Denmerk \$185 Finland \$137 269

284 498 1,055

363 742 1.679

Annual Insurance Premiums in Europe

Source: Company reports, Tillinghast auto insurance report.

Netherlands \$ 66.4 * 10-year term insurance for £100,000 (\$158,000)

premiums to a significant degree.

He does, however, anticipate that competition will encourage product innovation and will improve levels of service.

\$125 U.K.

\$114 if smoker

"A few markets have very simple rating structures. Consequently, some people are sonalized rating structure.

paying more than they need to pay for cover, while others are paying less than they should be," he says. "Increased competition is likely to broaden premium rating in these markets and create a more per-

Firms Develop New Policies for HIV Risks

By Laura Colby

"N the United States, acquired immune deficiency syndrome and AIDS-related disease have become the leading cause of death for people between the ages of 25 and 44 - and thus one of the leading causes of death for employed people.

However, the feared financial strain on the life and health insurance industry due 10 AIDS-related claims hasn't reindustry studies. In the United States, insur-

Sweden

ance companies spent \$1.586 billion on AIDS-related health and life claims in 1994, according to the annual AIDS Claims Survey cooducted by the American Council of Life Insurance and the Health Insurance Association of America.

That was up only slightly from \$1.516 billion a year earlier. Group bealth claims actually declined, to \$446 million last year from \$484 million in 1993, according to the survey.

This is not because of any good news in the battle against the disease, which is estimated to have infected one million people in the United States alone and which still has no

In fact, overall AIDS-related claims are up nearly fivefold since the surveys began in

However, industry analysts say that the annual cost of treating an AIDS patient has dropped sharply. In the area of \$100,000 or more in the early 1990s, it is now \$65,000 to \$73,000, according to a gov-

ernment survey. That makes treatment of AIDS comparable in cost to that of other catastrophic illnesses

The other reason insurance overwbelming flood of claims, analysts say, is that many of the of the money when he or she is new cases of the disease are among groups such as intravenous drug users and their partners - people who in general aren't covered by individual or group life insurance.

This means that the financial burden of the epidemic is being

shifted to the government, which will be forced to pick up the tab through programs such as Medicaid. Insurance companies are their coverage to people with AIDS or people who are at

The result is that purchasers

ally materialized, according to HIV, that causes AIDS now ically employers don't require have a number of options open to them.

> For instance, many life insurance companies now provide bovers of new insurance policies with the option of cashing in a life policy early to help pay medical or other costs if the insured person is diagnosed with AIDS. The Prudential, a life insur-

ance company based in New Jersey, was one of the first to offer this option, which is available to anyone who bas beeo diagnosed as having a terminal illness, according to a spokeswoman, Karen Howell.

The so-called Living Needs Benefit, which has been offered for about five years, isn't aimed specifically at people with AIDS, she added.

This option is offered at oo extra charge to anyone wbo buys more than \$50,000 of life urance, she said.

NOTHER company, American Physician's Life Insurance .Co., offers a special policy for doctors, deotists and other medical professionals who risk cootracting the virus accidentally through their

The policy pays 25 percent of ees with AIDS. its death-benefit value when the individual tests positive for companies have oot faced an HIV. The insured person re-serious illness," says Jill Foley. ceives the remaining /5 percent diagnosed as having AIDS.

Some companies are even making the early cashing in of a life policy into an investment. Dignity Partners Inc., a com-pany based in San Francisco, is

one of many that purchase life insurance policies from people with AIDS or other terminal illnesses, and then use the policies as collateral for bonds sold to institutional investors.

Although several years ago coming up with ways to adapt many insurance companies began requiring a test for the virus as a condition of writing new policies, people who have HIV can and do still get new health of insurance who are healthy and life insurance, at least in the but fear that they might be at United States - by becoming risk for contracting the human part of an employee insurance deal with the loss of a loved immunodeficiency virus, or program where they work. Typ- one.

a physical examination before such insurance is granted.

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act signed by President George Bush in 1990, it is illegal for employers to discriminate against employees with disabilities, and that includes discriminating in terms of benefits such as employersponsored insurance coverage.

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Employers, therefore, must provide all employees with the same health insurance, whether they are disabled or not.

In fact, U.S. court decisions in the past few years have also struck down attempts by insurers to cap the amount of benefits an AIDS patient can receive. AIDS-related claims account for 10 percent of all claims un-

der the disability act. Not all companies have to be taken to court to get fair treatment for people with AIDS, however.

Many companies have adopted employee awarenes programs to educate staff members and their families about the

Some companies, such as the Chubb Group of insurance companies, offer special working conditions, such as flextime or telecommuting, to employ-

At Pacific Telesis Group, "we treat AIDS like any other nia telecommunications company. That means full medical and disability coverage, plus a cash-out option of company life insurance policies for the ter-

Pacific Telesis, based in San Francisco, used to provide an AIDS education program for its employees, Ms. Foley says, but unfortunately the disease has now become so common that a formalized program is no longer necessary.

Instead, she says, the company's employee counseling program has received many requests from AIDS support groups to work with them on a more specialized basis to belp employees and their families

BRIEFCASE

An Africa Fund For Small Investors

GT Management PLC, the European arm of the U.S. fund management firm, is launching a new vehicle for small investors who want to make a long-term commitment to Africa. The GT Africa fund is aimed

at the serious investor --- chiefly the professional and the institutional — seeking long-term growth. The fund, which will has raised \$75 million, will be listed on the Irish stock exchange and domiciled in the taxprivileged location of Bermuda.

The fund is expected to commit no more than 40 percent of its money to the South African market - by far the most heavily capitalized and sophisticated African stock market — but it countries and industrial sectors.

identified the financial sector, companies benfiting from the building of Africa's infrastructure, borticulture, mineral resources and tourism as offering meod them at the moment. the most potential.

dominates the continent in terms in the world," says Janet of both economic activity and stock-market capitalization, it is important to remember that a don office. "Thirty years of number of smaller African mar- stagnation have left their mark, kets are of similar sizes and levbut we believe South Africa has
flat over the last quarter, and are els of development as those of the potential to act as a catalyst down 3.21 percent over the first Thailand, Argentina and Turkey in the late 1980s." said John world economy." Legat, the fund's manager,

sible free-market policies, con- em Europe was even more op-

growth, as a trend which is set to continue," he added. Shares are denominated in

dollars, and dealing is also conducted in Hong Kong dollars, British pounds and Deutsche marks.

There are two classes of shares: A-shares have an initial minimum investment of \$10,000, while the minimum commitmeet for B-share investors is \$250,000. There is an initial charge of 3 percent, and stop taking subscriptions after it an annual charge of 0.75 percent for A-share investors. For more information, call GT Management in London at (44 171) 710 4567.

Are You Fearless? Take This Test ev in Mexico a little under a

year ago will know that emerging-market investors need The managers say they have strong nerves — or an uncanny sense of timing.

Africa has some of the low-"Although South Africa est income-per-capita numbers Chisholm, an analyst at the in-

world economy. The result of Fund Re-We see the adoption of sen-search's recent field trip to East-

with Latin America's monetary fragility but has the advantage of low equity valuations to make the entry point easier and the downside risk more toler-

able," concluded the firm. But downside risk, readers are reminded, is a euphemism for losing a lot of money.

Capitalizing on The New China

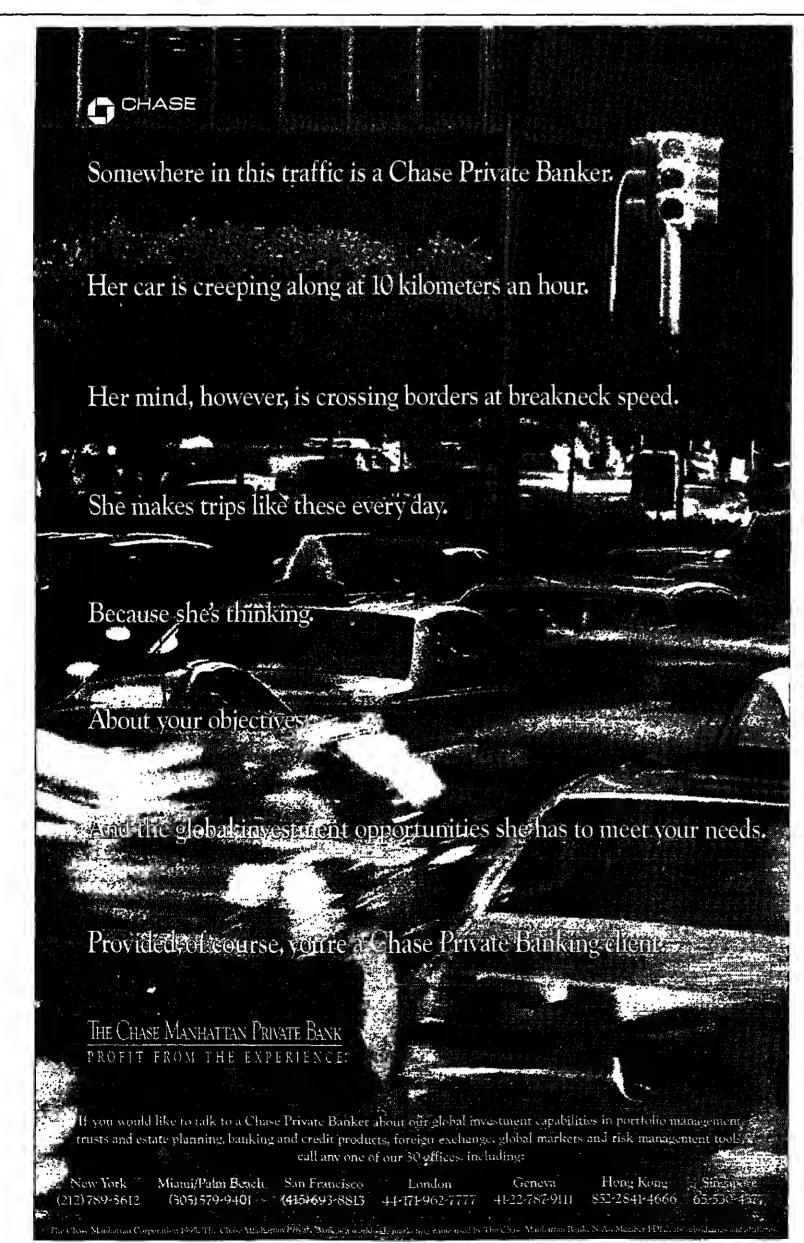
Morgan Stanley Capital In-ternational has produced a Chioa equity index comprised of 24 Chinese shares available to international investors.

According to its creators, the index seeks "to accurately reflect the performance of [the Chinese] markets" by, among other things, "replicating the industry composition of the local market; by avoiding companies with excessive crossownership; by including a represectative sampling of companies with small, medium and

You Win Some, **You Lose Some**

Emerging markets were not the place to be for hedge-fund investors, according to TASS nine mooths of the year. says the London-based firm.

Global macro hedge funds added a spectacular 14 percent sistent with higher investment timistic: "The region combines funds that buy "distressed" over the quarter, and hedge economic Asia's growth characteristics uities gained 6.5 percent-



In Spite of Obstacles, EU Life Insurers Chase Cross-Border Business

By Aline Sullivan

IFE insurance was always expected to be one of the laggards of the European single market program. Instead, litforeign competition were officially dismantled, investors throughout the European Union are being courted by a host of foreign companies.

supposedly came into effect on July 1, which offers companies considerable 1994 when the First Life Directive tax savings, is the next most popular took force. In common with most EU choice, and six major life companies are edicts, however, theory wasn't transformed into practice for months in many members states.

Two countries, Spain and Greece, have yet to incorporate the directive into national law and in several others taxation anomalies mean that barriers "to foreign competition still exist, according to a recent report by the Comité Européen des Assurances in Paris. But insurers have nevertheless

made substantial gains. "Considering that the pan-European insurance has only existed legal-

passed in some countries, progress has been excellent," observed James Ball, head of management consultancy J.B.I. Associates in Luxembourg.

"In just the first four months of this year, total cross-border life business for companies based in the Grand tle more than a year after barriers to Duchy exceeded the 1994 total of \$1.5 billion," he said.

Luxembourg draws many European life insurers, 35 at last count, thanks to its central geographical position and The single market for life insurance reputation for financial secrecy. Dublin. tax savings, is the next most popular now operating out of its International Financial Services Center.

> Wherever they are based, the success or failure of life insurance companies in the single market depends heavily on their distribution channels. Two obstacles, tax and culture, have made establishing these channels hard going.

"It is difficult enough for companies to have good distribution in their home market. To do it elsewhere is extremely difficult." said Ian Kamieniecki, a partner at consulting actuaries Bacon & Woodrow in London, "What ly for a year and has not even been gets sold as life insurance in the dif- ropean insurance specialist at London most of their income in that country.

ferent countries varies enormously."

regular premium endowment con- foreign insurers to sell," he said. tracts and the French market by eightyear, single-premium bonds. Industry experts point out that these

are very different products. The furmer is a regular savings plan that puts money into a conservatively managed fund with an annually increasing guarclass (the term "bond" bere is a mar- tice to comment on the case. keting device and does not imply that porate debt, i.e., bonds in true sense).

advantage of Dutch tax breaks won't sell well in Spain."

law firm Allen & Overy, the European For example, in Britain, where 70 Commission is not yet in a position to percent of total premiums are spent on demand that member states tax policies ife insurance - making it the world's issued by foreign companies on the third biggest life market after the Unit- same basis as domestic policies, "In ed States and Japan - most life prod- countries where the tax advantage is a ucts are now unit-linked. The German major selling point, there will always market is still dominated by 30-year be a question mark over the ability of

This problem was well illustrated last year when Sweden instituted a 15 percent tax on life insurance premiums paid to companies based outside the country. Leading Swedish insurer Skandia AS, which markets Swiss, German and offshore policies to anteed return, plus life cover for the Swedes, objected furiously. It has takduration of the plan. The latter is a one- en the government to court in Sweden time investment into a given asset and asked the European Court of Jus-

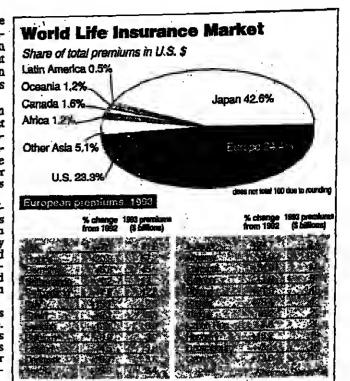
The court is likely to favor Skandia, investors are buying sovereign or cor- if its recent ruling on pension tax is anything to go by. Earlier this year it "One of the major determinants of ruled in the case of Wielockx versus who buys what comes down to tax." the Dutch tax authorities that a EU explained a London-based analyst, member state cannot allow its res-"A French product designed to take idents to deduct their pension fund contributions from their taxable income while denying this right to non-According to Patrick Devine, a Eurresident EU nationals receiving all or

Tax anomalies will exist until the European Commission is able to convert its existing recommendation on harmonization to a directive. And that will take years. But changes within member countries mean that tax is becoming less of an issue.

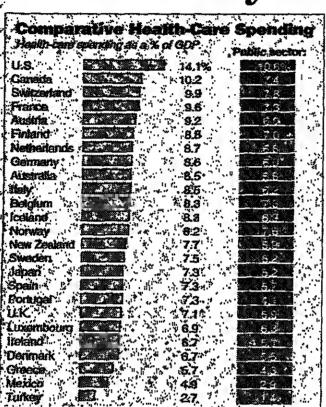
Governments in many European countries have cut tax breaks for most forms of life products, except for retirement plans. As a result, life insurance policies are becoming more standard and easier to sell directly or through banks. This, in turn, makes them easier to sell across borders.

The cultural obstacle is more difficult to overcome. "In theory, there is nothing to stop U.K. citizens from buying a Spanish policy but they don't," an analyst said. "Life and pensions are much more image sensitive than, say, motor insurance, and people like buying products from

companies that they know."
To date, no U.S. life insurer has established a pan-European presence. Industry experts say they expect this situation to change, possibly as early as next year. This will make it earlier for Americans working in Europe to repa-



A Cautionary Tale About War, Medical Insurance, and Sea Snakes



By Digby Larner

to unwind from a hard week's work and was bitten by a poisonous sea track record."

Local doctors did what they could, but it was only by virtue of her medical insurance that she was able to be evacuated to a well-equipped hospital.

work now, but it was a close call" said

If you are currently an expatriate or pregnancy cover." are about to become one, you may think you have more pressing concerns than checking out your medical insurance coverage. Think again.

dons abroad - a market where the more limited. available health-insurance plans are pretty similar - those living and waste of time in some countries, where who can show they are either covered working abroad are faced with a wide you can't buy good treatment at any by their own country's state system or range of opdons, and an even wider price." Mr. Pryor said.

"The most important consideration RS. X (not her real name), a British expariate living in Asia, settled down on a remote Cambodian beach is how much experience the insurer the patient is transferred to the nearest center able to deal with specific types of illness. And because these are likely to be private clinics, say advisers, the you chose has a long and successful

Just as important is the type of country the expatriate will be working in. In the United States, for example, where bealth-care costs are high and insurance coverage is sporty. Mr. Pryor recommends that expatriates buy governments that previously provided "She's fully recovered and back at or recommends that expatriates buy ork now, but it was a close call" said "the works: a minimum \$500,000

David Pryor, a director with Expacare, a British medical insurer specializing in expatriates. cover, outpatient care, drugs, physiotherapy. If possible you should also opt for routine dental treatment and In a developing country, on the other hand, this level of coverage would

be excessive: Not only are medical costs likely to be much lower, the Unlike people taking short vaca- range of available treatment will be

In poorly equipped or isolated re-Even if the employer provides medical insurance as part of its expatriate be placed on evacuation coverage to package, experts stress that employees ensure that the patient can be airlifted ensure that the patient can be airlifted even cause deterioration in countries drugs, dressings and outpatient care.

But rather than worrying about what the policy offers, BUPA said, pol-

evacuation coverage provides air ambulances if needed and also guarantees plan needs to cover much more than just the airplane.

Private medical insurance is growing worldwide, not only because the number of expaniates continues to increase, state-backed programs.

Recent events in the Middle East show how quickly good medical provision can melt away as circumstance change. Prior to the Gulf War several of the Gulf states provided expatriates with free medical coverage. Since then Middle Eastern governments have found themselves struggling financially and oow demand that expatriates make their own provision. Some will Cover for dental care would be a only renew work visas for workers by an approved medical insurer.

The pressure of medical costs can

with already poor standards declining further in many areas since the fall of

that a Unicef report published last August claimed mortality and health problems in former East Bloc countries are the worst Europe has seen this on such risks but usually charge an century. While some countries, no-extra premium for them. The golden tably the Czech Republic, are making rule, say advisers, is to check out the efforts to improve the situation, propolicy details beforehand. gress is slow.

David Boyle, executive director of the BUPA private health company in Britain, said that being well-informed about local provision is the key to.

buying adequate coverage.

When overseas you have to consider the different facilities, or lack of such facilities, which in turn may be exacerbated by language complica-tions," he said. "If you are taking out private medical insurance it is important to know what you are paying for and be certain that you are sufficiently covered for your circumstances."

Despite the differences between policies, most offer at least some for hospital accommodation, specialists' fees, inpatient care (including X-rays),

needs to ensure they know exactly speedily to the nearest hospital. Good particularly hard hit in this respect, icyholders should consider the restrictions. Dangerous sports are often ex-cluded from basic policies. That means a spur-of-the-moment decision The problem has become so acute to try your hand at water skiing could take you beyond the scope of the pol-

icy if things go wrong.
Insurers are normally happy to take

More innocent excursions can be iust as problematic. Many expatriate policies are specific to the country of residence, and therefore may not cover you while you are away.

brief break may find themselves out of cover. With most plans the policybolder is forced to buy new medical coverage in the home country. This means, for example, that pre-existing illnesses are taken into account and could either push up the premium or lead to the policyholder being refused coverage altogether.

Some insurers, aware of the problem, have come up with a way around it. American Express Insurance Services in Britain, for instance, oow offers a travel medical insurance policy that covers cardholders in their country of residence as well as on the road.

No 1 OFFSHORE COMPANY SPECIALISTS

How to Profit From One of the World's Most Reliable Growth Industries

By Ann Brocklehurst

one of the most commoo ways to casb in on the only one. A handful of North American funeral-home sidon candidates. companies are rapidly expanding, chalking up increased prof- not be able to distinguish be- mon stock. its and revenues as they grow both at home and abroad.

' The companies — the largest of which are Service Corp. International, Loewen Group Inc. and Stewart Enterprises Inc. hope to beoefit from the ecooomies of scale achieved when they buy out small independent funeral bomes as well as from offering consumers new products and services.

Together the big three companies still own only 10 percent While funerals are still pri- and Canada.

erations, recently heirs have been reluctant to continue the death, but it is far from tradition — a trend that, experts say, makes for lots of acqui-

tween an independent and chain-run funeral business, since the big companies rarely change a home's name or publicize their presence. The philosophy is that people want to deal with a business they know and trust. Loewen Group says it tries to persuade at least one family member to remain with the business after it is acquired. Acquisioons in the industry

have remained strong this year. of funeral homes in the United Canadian company based in to \$1.11 billion, up 37.5 percent States — which, according to Vancouver and traded on the from the same period last year, tions on two companies; Ser-David Jarrett, senior vice-pres- Nasdaq Stock Market, has The company's net income vice Corp. and Stewart, which — and shareholders and acquite the various countries in which ident of Gerard Klauer Mattison agreed to buy \$758 million climbed 32.3 percent, to \$127 specializes to the cemetery side sition candidates — the big they do business. As a result, in New York, means "there's worth of funeral homes and million, in the same period.

itself as the largest funeral and cemetery service organization in the world, bought out the Gibraltar Mausoleum Corp. of Indiana for \$99 million and Consumers, moreover, may 3.29 million shares of its com-

The company, which trades on the New York Stock Exchange, has extended its shopping spree abroad. This year it purchased a controlling interest in two funeral subsidiaries of France's Lyonnaise des Eaux for some \$423 million, and in 1994 it moved into Britain with the acquisition of Great South-

era Corp. for \$173.8 million. Consolidation has boosted Service Corp.'s revenues for To date in 1995, Loewen, a the first mine months of this year

cemeteries in the United States

Loewen's nine-month sales

New Orleans. She believes that are changing the dynamics of their range of products, offering and Canada.

Loewen's nine-month sales

New Orleans. She believes that are changing the dynamics of their range of products, offering more modest coffins and simmarily a family business. Service Corp., which is head-million, as profits rose 35 per-high price-earnings multiple cot, to \$37 million.

Both companies are benefiting from "clustering," a strategy that allows funeral parlors shares lost more than a quarter to cut fixed costs by sharing a range of services, from hearses sippi jury ordered it to pay \$500 to employees, thereby producing economies of scale.
'Vehicles are very expen-

sive, and you want your em-ployees to stay busy," explains Susan Little, an analyst with Raymond James & Associates in St. Petersburg, Florida. "In Houston, they have central embalming."
Ms. Little — who, not co-

incidentally, estimates that the number of deaths in the United - has "buy" recommenda- cess Loewen has begun.

ad recommends "accumulation."

Earlier this month, Loewen of their value when a Missismillion to an acquisition target. The company had accused Loewen of reneging on a 1991 purchase agreement valued at only \$8.5 million.

Despite the Mississippi ver-dict and another \$200 millioo lawsuit from the Pennsylvania-that this negative image is ei-based insurer Provident Amer-ther outdated or applicable only ican Corp., analyst Keith to the shadiest of small private Mullins of Smith Barney con-enterprises — not to modern tinues to like Loewen stock and believes it will outperform the States will rise from 2.30 mil- market. He expects the jury's swer to. tion in 1994 to 2.56 million in award to be substantially re-1999 and 2.60 million in 2010 duced during the appeals pro-

In their quest for customers of the business and is based in U.S. "death care" corporations the companies have broadened

exploiter of grief has never re ally recovered from the unflat- cost thousands of dollars. tering portrait painted by the the recent case of a Florida undertaker who received money from absent relatives for the burial of bodies which he then

simply stored in a warehouse. Analysts point out, however, public corporations with shareholders and regulators to an-

The large funeral companies like large companies in any industry, also have to keep an eye on the antitrust authorities in specializes to the cemetery side sition candidates — the big they do business. As a result,

The industry's image as an pler services in addition to the sort of deluxe f

plaques rather than burials.



reasonable cost. All fees agreed with • BAHAMAS • BV ISLANDS ● BELIZE 5500 • GIBRALTAR HONG KONG IRELAND ISLE OF MAN JER5EY MAURITIUS FOR DAMEDIATE SÉRVICE & OUR FRANK 185 PAGE COLOUR BROCHURE CONTAC ISLE OF MAN - P'THOMPSON FOA OMERSEAS COMPANY REGISTRATION AGENTS LTD COMPANIES HOUSE, TOWER STREET RAMSEY, ISLE OF MAN, BRITISH ISLES, IM99 4AN TEL: 444 1624 813544 FAX: 444 1624 817078 LONDON - RECHARD D COOK, BSc (Herss) 72 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W/Y 9DD TEL: 444 171 355 1096 FAX: 444 171 495 3017 HONG KONG - 8' G DEKKER LLM 24th FLOOR BANK OF AMERICA TOWER, 12 HARCOURT ROAD, HONG KONG TEL: +852 25220172 FAX: +852 25211190 USA - KEVIN MINECKI ATTOMICY-AS-LAM 3501 JAMBORGE ROAD, SUITE 2100, NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92560 TEL +1 714 854 3344 FAX: +1 714 854 6967 EAST COAST USA - KINK CARTER MA

From Policyholder to Shareholder in One (Fairly) Easy Step

question is not quoted on a stock exchange.

The secret is to be a pol-

changing its status from a mu- acquisition of assets and goodtual association - an entity which is wholly owned by its policyholding members — to that of a corporation. The change of status for pol-

icybolders is from association member and owner of a fraction of unrealizable assets to that of stockholder of a listed compa-

Swiss Life, which said this week that its policyholders will decide in mid-1997 on the planned transformation of the mutual company into a publicly owned company, provides the latest example of this phe-

. The commercial logic of the move, according to the management of the company, is greater access to capital mar-

If the change of status follows the pattern of similar international transactions, the move could be highly profitable for Swiss Life's existing mem-

based life-insurance company. mid-1997.

NDIVIDUAL investors was formerly a mutual society. can make money out of But after its management insurance companies - agreed a deal with Abbey Naeven if the company in tional, a British bank — itself a thirds will have to agree for the recently corporatized building share sale to go through. Swiss society, or thrift institution members received a cash bonus icybolder in a company that is as compensation for the bank's

> policybolders of National Mu- shares that are to be created. tual Life of Australasia experienced a similar financial windfall when their mutual society was acquired this summer by French insurer Axa-Midi.

Policyholder approval of the deal was far from a foregone conclusion, and Axa's public relations officers had some hard work to do when difficult quesnons were asked about French nuclear testing in the South Pacific at a members' meeting in

But members were ultimately won round by a combination hold on? of Axa's argument that it should be regarded as an intemational rather than a French company, and the financial benefits to both the mutual as- to end up a loser. sociation and the members

themselves. Scottish Mutual, a Glasgow to the public in mid-1996 or

About 500,000 policy holders in Switzerland will be able to vote on the change, and two-Life said in a statement. Current holders of Swiss Life

participation certificates will equisition of assets and goodill.

Version of their non-voting
Australian and New Zealand
Australian and New Zealand
Shares into the Swiss Life highly hyped shares soaring in the first days of trading is stanthe first days of trading is stanexceptionally bad." Mr. Ritter biggest bank, would take a 25 er.

percent stake in the company. gets the majority its wants and return of 16 percent if bought new issues in their first year of — nearly two thirds were trad-the conversion to corporate sta- and held for five years, accord- trading, dropped around 10 per- ing below their offering prices tus goes ahead, policyholdersnumed-shareholders will face a Toma Laughton, a finance pro-month. dilemma common to every fessor at the University of owner of stock in a hot new Towa. flotation: If your approach to

Some analysts argue that in five-year period. the world of new issues, the

Consider Omrak Systems Inc., On Technology Corp., and lie when the overall market is at Swiss Life is Switzerland's Novadigm Inc., each of which or near a peak. Also, many biggest life insurer. It said in treated U.S. shareholders to a companies that go public tend September it would sell shares summer joy ride. Since then to be in industries that the fishares in all three have fallen nancial world loves for that molike autumn leaves.

Should investors still be holding shares? "I might be a vestors can't get enough of soft- ter the champagne," said little nervous right now," said ware companies that link com- Robert Bennin, new issues an-Jay Ritter, a finance professor at puters in networks or help Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Sloan School of global computer network. Management who specializes in initial public offerings, or

Swiss Life also said in dard in the IPO market, experts said. September that Union Bank of say - and so is the stagnation Switzerland, the country's that follows a few months lat-

Between 1970 and 1990 Assuming that the company IPOs posted an average total index of the performance of ing to a study by Mr. Ritter and cent in the early part of last some 27 months later,

Investments in comparable owning shares is purely finan- companies that weren't newly cial, just how long should you public posted an average return of 66 percent over the same

Many iPOs start life when longer you hold on to your things look great - which is shares the more likely you are both their blessing and their curse. Companies typically go pub-

ment.

Just now, for example, incomputer users browse the Unfortunately, market highs

been flat ever since," said Charles Glovsky, a fund man-The smaller offerings tend Small and young describes

plenty of recent U.S. equity issues. The Bloomberg IPO index, a capitalization-weighted

Of the 293 new U.S. issues sold in the six months to mid-October more than three quarters traded at or above their offering prices. Compare that with the figures for the IPOs of July 1993

alvst and president of San Fran-

right after the offering and have

ager at State Street Research &

Management Co. in Boston.

"A lot of issues spiked up

cisco-based IPO Crossroads.

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Companies that operate in-

journalist Jessica Mitford in her ternationally also have to be 1963 book, "The American sensitive to local preferences in Way of Death." Nor is it helped order to prosper. In Britain, sensitive to local preferences in by periodic scandals, such as Australia and Canada, where cremation is more common than it is in the United States. funeral bomes focus on selling urus and commemorative

> And all companies are placing greater emphasis on "pre-need" funerals, which allow consumers to choose and pay for their funerals in advance and save their families from having to make such decisions in times of stress.



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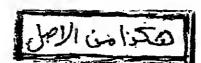
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WORLD ROUNDUP France Aims for 4th in Row Over Once-Invincible All Blacks



Michael Chang, after his impressive defeat Friday of Jim Courier.

Chang Ousts Courier

TENNIS Michael Chang beat Jim Courier, 6-2, 7-5, Friday in Frankfurt to reach the semifinals of the ATP Championships for the first time. He faces Pete Sampras on Saturday, and

Thomas Enqvist plays Boris Becker. Chang had 11 aces, Courier none. Chang broke his fellow American twice to win the first set, and after trading breaks early in the second, Chang broke again for a 6-5 lead and served out the match in one hour, 32 minutes. (AFP)

Vaughn Is AL's MVP

BASEBALL Mo Vaughn edged Albert Belle for the American League's MVP award in one of the closest elecrions ever. The two tied for the AL RBIs lead with 126. Belle led the majors with 50 home runs and became the first player to get 100 extra-base hits since Stan Musial in 1948. Vaughn hit .300 with 39 homers for Boston. (AP)

Another Victory for King

BOXING The boxing promoter Don King, came away with another legal victory Friday wheo prosecutors withdrew their appeal of a mistrial ruling in his insurance fraud trial in New York.

European Seeds Named

SOCCER England, Denmark, Germany and Spain will be the four seeded teams in next month's draw for the 1996 European Championship. Italy, favored by bookmakers to win the 16team tournament, was bypassed for a seeded spot. The tournament will be played at seven sites in England from June 8 to 30. (Reuters)

63 Dumas beroes

70 Marathoner's

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78 Monthly check

80 Russner title character acts

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shows affection for E M T.'s?

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D. TIE

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CERNS

21 By the sea

27 Biblical

International Herald Tribune

ONDON -- Last June, the Southern Hemisphere rughy powers looked invincible to their rivals from the Pienaar a new nickname: Average." North. But that view shifted as winter crept in this weekend — because the Southerners

have come north. precedented fourth straight victory Satur-Zeal- lan

ting the All Thomsen three tries to none a week ago in Toulouse. Across the Channel, for the unveiling of newly enlarged Twickenham, England will be seeking to break the 13-game winning streak of world champion South Africa, which has been rather glum in post-World Cup victories against Wales and Italy. The

big oames are still in place. The Europeans were forced to adapt after the South cast them out in the World Cup semifinals in June: France lost narrowly in a quagmire to host South Africa, and England had the spirit tromped out of

since the final in Johanneshurg, hut their

them by the All Blacks and Jonah Lomu. The French have changed coaches twice already, bringing in Jean-Claude Skrela after a player's revolt just two days before its all-the-more dramatic 22-15 beating of New Zealand. France is now preaching the same sort of total rugby" vision that New

Zealand seemed to be pateoting last June. The English, staid, conservative and polite as the All Blacks were trampling all over them five months ago, have gone — shall we say it? - Hollywood. Their captain, Will Carling, has achieved the kind of universal celebrity usually left to the Hugh Grants after his publicized secret meetings with Princess Diana, resulting in the breakup of his marriage with a blonde, British TV star.

In American sport, as in Hollywood, the Carling saga would have been milked for "the good of the game," or at least for income and exposure, much as figure skaring grew in popularity from the sordid Tonya Harding-Nancy Kerrigan scandal. But oot the English — oh dear, no. Never.

This season I have enjoyed playing cluh rugby, but the other hits and pieces have oot beeo great fun," said Carling, "I love playing internationals, but it would be fell one stride short of the winning try a lie if I didn't say that parts of being captain are not very nice.

Carling hasn't ruled out his availability for the 1999 World Cup. By then English rugby might be onto the truths of the professional/entertainment world into which they're just now entering, and they might want to keep him around for his market

Until theo, however, mild outbursts such as that from Mike Catt last weekend will be

CANDYLAND By Cathy Millhauser

coach for referring to South African captain François Pienaar as "an average player." The Springboks have since given

The 24-year-old Catt has become the fulcrum of this test match. Three years ago he was visiting relatives in England from In Paris, France will be seeking an un- his native South Africa, when he decided to call a few clubs, looking for a game. He settled at Bath — England's leading club where he has replaced Smart Barnes at fly-half. Catt has been England's fullback for a year, moving to fly-half once in the first round of the World Cup.

He has already criticized his predecessor, Roh Andrew, for preferring to kick goals rather than pass wide to the fleetest backs England has ever had. In fact, the English hope that Catt steers them onto a higher plane of expansive, running rugby in the Southern Hemisphere mode. They Springboks have changed five players just wish he would keep his mouth shut.

"We watched a video of him playing against Western Samoa in the World Cup," said South Africa fly-half Joel Stransky, who won the World Cup final against New Zealand with his kick in extratime. "He is a talented player and looks to be quite adventurous." However, he added: "Carr is unproven at fly-half at international level and it's a huge adjustmeot from club level."

NGLAND has also moved away from mainstay forwards Dean Richards and Brian Moore (who, hy the way, always had a much bigger mouth than Catt), with hope that its changes will be as successful as the benchings in France of the World Cup stars Olivier Roumat, Thierry Lacroix and Laureot Cabannes. When those three were banned by France for remaining in South Africa to play in the Currie Cup, their French teammates boycotted a civic reception. The oew French manager, André Herrero, took all of this

out of all of this, 10 days later, the Freoch believe they're on the verge of greatness. "I want us to be able to play total rughy," said Skrela. "It's something that's always been uppermost in my mind."

He should recall every nice thing that was said about Pierre Berbizier after he coached France to its historie victories at New Zealand last year. Berbizier's France against the Springboks; he finished third in the World Cup, and then lost his job.

The All Blacks have made four changes for this match, but mostly will seek to unhinge the mammoth Lomu, who was held down last weekend. It will be the last appearance by New Zealand's manager, Laurie Mains, a visionary genius on the eve of the World Cup final, unpopular at home

I just want to get out of the public eye,' taken too seriously. Catt, moving from said Mains, who wasn't talking like that fullback to fly-half permanently as of Sat- five months ago. The Europeans will be urday (or so he hopes), was rehuked by his seeking to exploit such differences.



Joel Stransky (10) and the World Cup rugby champion, South Africa, play England on Saturday at Twickenham.

Can the Cowboys Pass Raiders' Test?

By Timothy W. Smith

Dallas (8-2) at Oakland (8-2) Charles Haley's 10.5 sacks leads the NFC. The Raiders defense is holding opponents to 29.4 percent oo third-down conversion attempts.

This is game No. 2 in a bru-

NILMATCHUPS

tal three-game stretch for the Cowboys. They failed test No. I last week with a stunning loss to San Francisco. You can believe they woo't take the Raiders for granted.

Some would say this is an sticky for Lions coach Wayne early look at the Super Bowl. Fontes. He must make the play-offs to keep his job. He can't Cowboys by 4.

eight sacks in the last five games, compared with 21 in the first five. The Giants defense is giving up 135.5 yards rushing per game - 27th in the NFL.

The last time these two teams played, Ricky Watters rushed for 122 yards and one TD. The Giants ere still having trouble shutting off the run. That's going to be a problem for them in

this game, because the Eagles gets the great timing award. is No. 29. Boomer Esiason will have a 1-2 punch in Watters and Since the announcement that he play for the first time since Charlie Garner. Eagles by 41/2. Arizona (3-7) at Carolina (4-6)

The Cardinals have forced 15 turnovers in the last four games. The Panthers have 18 takeaways (10 interceptions) in the last five games. Carolina plays a team with a

this won't be a breather for the centage (1.1). Panthers. Cardinals by 1. Detroit (4-6) at Chicago (6-4)

Herman Moore averages 7.3 catches for 103.4 yards a game. Erik Kramer has thrown 23 TDs to lead the league. This is where things get sticky for Lions coach Wayne

afford to lose another game to New York Giants (3-7) at assure that will happen.
Philadelphia (6-4) The Eagles' Look for the big p

ons' expense. Chicago hy 31/2. Green Bay (6-4) at Cleveland (4-6) The Browns defense is allowing opponents to coovert 49.6 percent of their third down artempts — the worst in the

AFC. Brett Farve leads the NFC in third-down passing, completing 61.5 perceot of his passes for 8 TDs and 2 interceptions. Browns owner Art Modell

was moving the team to Baltimore the Browns have gone 0-2. All the hubbuh is a distraction. Packers by 2. Indianapolis (5-5) at New Eng-

land (4-8) Jim Harbaugh leads the NFL in average yards per attempt (8.38), fewest interceprecord worse than its own. But tions (2) and interception per-

The Patriots have not allowed a first quarter score in the last three games.

This should be quite a test for Patriots rookie running back Curtis Martin, who is coming off back-to-back 100 yard rushing performances. Patriots by 3. sksonville (3-7) at Tampa

Bay [5-5] The Jaguars have scored 16 TDs on 26 trips inside the redzone (61.5 percent), Look for the big plays to which leads the AFC. The Bucs Chargers are allowing 14.6 second most in the NFL behind Oakland (18).

After getting off to a hot start, the Bucs have cooled. Their best chance is to give the ball to running back Errict Rhett and get out of the way. Buccaneers by 6 1/2.

Pittsburgh (6-4) at Cincinnati (4-6) The Bengals have over pulled groin muscle. Even 300 yards of total offense in odds. nine of their 10 games this season. The Steelers defense is allowing opponents to convert just 31.5 percent of their third down attempts. But the Bengals do have some nice offensive weapons. Steelers by 3.

Seattle (4-6) at Washi (3-7) The Seahawks have scored 77 points in their last two games, versus 74 in their first four games. Brian Mitchell's 26.2 yards per kickoff return leads the NFL. Redskins by 3.

St. Louis (6-4) at Atlanta (6-4) The Falcons defense is allowing 260.8 yard passing yards — second most in the NFL. Isaac Bruce leads the NFL in receiving yards with 1,183. A month ago when these two

teams met, the Falcons couldn't stop Bruce, who had 10 receptions for 191 yards and 2 TDs. Their pass defense hasn't improved since then. If Chris Milfer can find Bruce, the Falcons will feel the sting. Falcons by 4. New York Jets (2-8) at Buffaio

[7-3] Bruce Smith has a careerbest 24.5 sacks against the Jets. The Jets pass defense is No. 1 in the league, but the run defense Monday night. Miami by 1.

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Smith knocked him out with a concussion in the last game be-tween the two teams on Oct. 8.3 The Bills have gotten back ontrack, Bills by 6.

New Orleans (4-6) at Minne ta [5-5] The Saints' defense has allowed 81.8 yards rushing in. the last five games. Cris-Carter's 72 receptions are the, second most in the league.

It could be a tough game for Warren Moon, because the Saints are getting their defense; together. Minnesota hasn't looked smooth offensively in their last two games, though. they've won. Vikings by 6.

San Diego (4-6) at Denver (5-5) The Broncos have allowed just five interceptions - the fewest in the league. The worst in the NFL.

John Elway is supposed to return from a concussion to play against the Chargers. He is 15-9 versus San Diego.

The Chargers have been missing the power running of. Natrone Means, who has been out the last two weeks with a

19-11 The Oilers defense has 13 interceptions and 12 fumble recoveries, which is No. 2 in the AFC. The Chiefs have held their last three opponents to 7

points or less. Bad news for the Oilers quarterback Chris Chandler is questionable with a leg injury. Chandler has sparked the Oilers: offense for much of the season, keeping them in games that they have lost by narrow mar-. gins. If he can't play, they're in-

big trooble. Chiefs by 11. San Francisco (6-4) at Miami-(6-4] Dan Marino averages 9.25 yards per attempt on thirddown passes - the most in the NFL. The 49ers defense has allowed just 5 TDs on its oppocents' 28 trips inside the redzone (17.9 percent) - the best-

mark in the league. With Steve Young on the. shelf for the next month after arthoscopic shoulder surgery, Elvis Grbac is firmly in charge of the 49ers offense. At least he looked that way last week. Miami is 25-10 overall at home on





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A CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY OF T

SPORTS

Praise for Lindros In Flyers' Victory

seconds to let the Ottawa Sen- sixth straight loss. ators know he was back in the Philadelphia Flyers' lineup.

end Lindros damaged them be- League's assist lead. vond renair.

there," said his linemate Mikael

NHLROUNDUP

Renberg, who had a goal and an assist to the Flyers' 5-3 victory Thursday night. "I think just having him on the ice briogs confidence to the other players. At least that's the way I feel." Philadelphia's coach, Terry

Murray, also praised Lindros: You can almost see the intangibles he brings wheo you walk into the dressing room. There is an attitude, a feeling of electricity. There's nothing better than him having a night like only one goal for the fourth he had tonight."

But Lindros, who missed the previous seven games because of a knee injury, said his play was overrated.

couldn't be great. You just have first game for the Sharks after to work on it.

In addition to two goals by their top center, the Flyers got four assists from their secondbest, Rod Brind'Amour.

The Associated Press
It took Eric Lindros just 93
goals in just three minutes in the final period to hand Ottawa its

hiladelphia Flyers' lineup.

The slumping Senators weassists to pass Mario Lemieux. athered that storm, but in the for the National Hockey

Gretzky extended his assist "He's a great force out streak to eight games and has 27 on the season, three more than Lemieux. It was Gretzky's first six-point game since he had two goals and four assists against Detroit on Oct. 9, 1993.

Vitali Yachmenev and Dimitri Khristich each had two goals and Tony Granato, Eric Lacroix, Marty McSorley and Darryl Sydor also scored for the Kings. Jamie Storr, the 19-yearold Kings rookie, stopped 34 shots to improve to 3-1-0.

Blues 3, Sharks 1 In St. Louis, Patrice Tardif scored the decisive goal at 4:04 of the third period, and Grant Fuhr allowed time in five games as St. Louis beat San Jose.

Fuhr, who has started every game for the Blues, stopped 21 San Jose shots. He needs just

being acquired from New Jersey, made 27 saves. But San Jose lost its sixth straight.

Maple Leafs 5, Lightnin nal minute of regulation and added the game-winner at 32 another third-period rally to tie the tie to snap a three-game sprained left knee, scored three seconds of overtime for Toron-



The Senators' Alexandre Daigle firing a shot at Philadelphia's goalie, Ron Hextall, in a game won by the Flyers, 5-3.

"I wouldn't say I was a two more victories to become force," he said. "My legs felt pretty good. My hands weren't that strong. I knew my hands two more victories to become to at Tampa Bay. Hogue fired a florida's seven-game winning shot from the slot past Daren Puppa for the winner. Hogue's to remain unbeaten in their last other goal came with 55 secesight contests. onds remaining in regulation, off a scramble in front of the oet

as Toronto avoided its second consecutive loss. Canucks 2, Panthers 2 In Mi-Benoit Hogue scored in the fi- ami, Scott Mellanby scored a pair of goals, and Florida staged

Vancouver. The tie snapped

Mellanby scored both goals

on tip-ins from slap shots by Jason Woolley. Devils 2, Bruins 2 In Boston,

Valeri Zelepukin's third goal of the season, with 3:04 left in the third period, gave New Jersey winning streak for the Devils.

1:11 of the first period on a for Chicago. Eric Daze and Joe rebound to give the Bruins a 1-0 lead. Ted Donato's fifth goal made it 2-0 at the 3:36 of the

second period. first NHL goal at 3:09 of the the game. third period as the Devils cut the lead to 2-1.

scored a questionable short- streak ended.

Sampres (1), U.S., 7-6 (7-1), 4-6, 6-3; Borts Beck

Michael Chang (4). U.S., def. Jim Co.

WYA TOUR CHAMPIO

nandez (II), U.S., 6-3, 6-4; Anke Huber, Gert del, Kimiko Date (6), Japon, 3-6, 6-2, 6-1.

IN NEW YORK OLLARTERPHALS

Steff Graf (1). Germany, det, Mary Jon Fer-

SKIING

WORLD CUP RESULTS

Wochier, Austria, 1-23.61; 5, Michoelo Doulmeis-ter, Austria, 1-23.66; 6, Heldt Zeller-Boetnier,

Switzerland, 1:23.75; (tie) Renete Goetschil Aus-

123.6c (re) Head Zuranjigen, Smitzentand, 123.8c (re) Hilde Gert, Germany, 123.93. Overall and Super-G Standings (Atter ten rase) 1, Erd. 100 points: 2. Setzinger, 80: 3, Kost-ner, 60; 4. Worlder, 50: 5. Dorfmeister, 45: 6, Zeller-Beebler, 40: trie) Goetschi, 40: 8, Schus-

CRICKET

PIEST TEST ENSLAND VS. SOUTH APRICA, 20 DAY

ter. 32; (Me) Zurbriggen, 32; 10; Gerg. 26.

Lustratio 1st Innings: 267 (all out)

Leading results Thursday of a worn id Cup super-G race on Yell Mountain in redo: 1, Morting Ertl, Germany, 1 minute, 9 seconds: 2. Koffa Setzinger, Germany,

Shawn McEachern scored at handed goal and added an assist Murphy also scored for the Blackhawks.

But the Rangers were blanked by Ed Belfour after Ricard Persson scored his Ray Ferraro scored 7:49 into

Belfour made 20 saves, and

Chicago killed off all six New Blackhawks 2, Rangers 1 In York power plays as the Chicago, Jeremy Roenick Rangers' five-game unbeaten

AMERICAN) LEAGUE
CALIFORNIA—Added Gooff Edsell Ryan Hancock, Pete Janicki, Ben VanRyn, pitchers, and
George Aries and Tim Harkvider, infletiers, to

INDE.

NEW YORK—Named Chris Chambiles bailing coach: Mel Stattlemyre pitching coach: Jose Cardenal ist base and puttled coach: Dun Zimmer heach coach. Reserved controls of Tony Cloninger bulipen coach and Willie Randolph 3d

PHILADELPHIA-Cloimed Corios

pricies, off waivers from Cleveland.

procince squad.

Miaati—Put Ethan Albright and Chris Gray,
offensive linespers on Inforced reserve. Signed
Gene McGultre, offersive linesport, and Prunk,
Wohrlight, long snopper-light end.

PHILADSLPHIA—Signed Mac Elevential, tockle, to 1-year contract, Walved Tray Druks, fackle.

ST, LOUIS-Put Jockie Slater, offersive tackte.

Nelson's Triumph: In Oakland, Knicks **Trounce Warriors**

The Associated Press

Coach Don Nelson, who spent seven years guiding the Golden State Warriors before season, was a winner in his return home Thursday night as the New York Knicks beat the Warriors, 120-97.

"I didn't have butterflies,

NBA ROUNDUP

but I was nervous," Nelson "It's difficult coming back the first time."

Nelson was met with a mix of boos and cheers when he walked onto the court at the Oakland Coliseum. Several fans held up an orange "We Love You Nelsign featuring a blue Statue of Liberty. Chris Mullin and Tim Hard-

away, two of Nelsoo's favorite players when he was with the Warriors, spent part of the game talking with their former coach. One time, while a Golden State player was shooting free throws, Hardaway strolled past the New York bench to check out Nelson's suit.

"It was nice to see him," Hardaway said. "He's dressing Derek Harper scored all 22 of

his points in the second half for the Knicks, Patrick Ewing added 20 and John Starks 18. Charles Oakley had 15 points and 10 rebounds. New York took an 8-0 lead,

but trailed, 51-47, at halftime. The Knicks rallied for an 87-78 lead after the three quarters, and the Warriors got no closer than nine in the final period.

Rookie Joe Smith had 14 points and 12 rebounds for Golden State.

Kings 105, Trail Blazers 102 Surprising Sacramento snapped a 23-game losing streak in Portland on Mitch Richmond's go-ahead basket with 23 seconds remaining.

The Kings, who moved from Kansas City to Sacramento 10 years ago, had oot won in Portland since Jan. 26, 1986.

The Associated Press

tional Basketball Association.

add a third official to two-man

replacement crews if there is no

agreement by Dec. 4.

A New Offer to Referees

Richmond, who had 25 points, put the Kings ahead 103-102 with a 20-foot jumper while falling backward. After quitting in the middle of last Rod Strickland, who led the Trail Blazers with 23 points, missed a jump shot. Lionel

Simmons made two foul shots. Rockets 115, Bucks 87 A day after beating Toronto with a lastsecond 3-pointer, Robert Horry scored a career-high 40 points to lead Houston in Milwaukee.

Horry hit 16 of 26 shots, including eight 3-pointers. On Wednesday night, also on the road, his only basket of the night in five tries beat the Raptors.

The Rockets won without Clyde Drexler, who sat out because of a bruised knee sustained in Toronto. Mario Elie scored 14 points while starting in place of Drexler, and Hakeem Olajuwon had 24 points and 12 rebounds.

Glenn Robinson scored 24 points for the Bucks. Magic 89, Pacers 80 With

both teams missing their stars, Orlando overcame Shaquille O'Neal's absence to win its

sixth straight game.
Anfernee Hardaway scored 30 points and Dennis Scott 21 for the Magic. Orlando has won 36 in a row at home against Eastern Conference opponents since April 1994. The Pacers played without

starters Reggie Miller, Dale Davis and Mark Jackson and reserve Fred Hoiberg, all serv-ing suspensions for their parts in a bench-clearing brawl with Sacramento Kings last week. Indiana also was minus starter Rik Smits and reserve Duane Ferrell, both out with injuries.

Clippers 103, Grizzlies 98 Loy Vaught had 19 points and 19 rebounds as Los Angeles rallied from an 18-point deficit for its fourth consecutive win. Vancouver lost its sixth in a row.

Brent Barry hit two 3-pointers in the last 2:36, including a shot that gave the Clippers their first lead in the second half at 97-96. Byron Scott scored 18

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL NBA STANDINGS ASTROMI CONFERENCE

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5 2 AZ5 5 3 AZ5 4 4 500 2 4 AZ9 2 5 375 2 6 250 2 6 250 4
THURSDAY'S RESERTS
Indiana 17 24 14 25— 80
Orlando 32 19 22 16— 89
I- McKey 7-14 3-417; Pierce 5-17 7-718, O: Scott
30, Rebeauds—Indiana 53 (A.Dovis 11),
Orlando 47 (Grant 15), Assists—Indiana 20
(Best 7), Orlando 17 (Hordoway 7),
Houston

nson 12-33 0-1 24; Mundock 7-12 2-2 19. unds.—Houston 58 (Oldprece 12), rukee 55 (Barker 12), Assists—Houston 30

S. Richmand 6-206-7 25; Marchallanks 6-8-4-14.
P. McXde 0-15-2-7 19; Strickland 11-17 1-2 22.
Rebounds—Socramenta 48 (Polymice 9);
Portiond 51 (Dudley 11), Assists—Socramenta 25 (Edway 6), Portiond 25 (Strickland 12), Vancouver 27 33-28 18—96
L.A. Cispers 21 24 33-25—163
V. Anthony 6-15-6-17; Edwards 7-12-0-164
L.A.: Vaught 9-17-19; Williams 6-11-5-8 17,
Rebounds—Vancouver 41 (Harvey 6), Los Angeles 40 (Vaught 19). Assists—Vancouver 11 (Anthony 8), Los Angeles 14 (Barry 4), New York 20 17-48 33—120

(Anthony B), Los Angeles 14 (15orry 4). When York 30 17 48 33—120 Golden State 27 24 27 19—97 N.Y.: Ewing 7-20-6-7 20: Harper 7-12 7-722, G.S.J. Hardaway 3-7 6-7 15: Sprewell 7-15 3-4 19. Rebotents—New York 56 (Oakley 10), Colden State 45 (J.Smith 12). Assists—New York 27 (Harper 10), Golden State 19 (Hardamay S).

MAJOR COLLEGE SCORES Georgetown 106, Colgate 57 Temple 65, Rider 62

HOCKEY NHL STANDINGS

Boxton
First Period: 8-McEgichern 5 (Nech, Stutagel),
Second Period: 8-McEgichern 5 (Nech, Stutagel),
Second Period: 8-Donato 5, (pp), Teird Period:
N.J., Persson 1 (Guerta, Sylkoro), A. M.J.
Zeleguikin 2 (Holiz, Stevens), Overhane—None,
Shors an god: N.J. 8-10-13-3-34, B-11-16-74
——77 (Seedless M.), Studiess M., St

Philodelphia 1 3-6
First period-1, P-Lindros 12 (BrinstAmour, LeCiald) (ppl. 2, O-Tormanen o (Straka, Drury).
Second Period: O-Altredsson 9 (Duchesne. Gaudreou) (ppl. 4. P-Renberg 12 (BrinstAmour). 5, O., Cumeyworth 4. Third Pariod: P-Fonnentuk 2 (Ofto, BrinstAmour). 7, P-Lindros 12 (Remberg, LeCloir). 6, P-Dykhols 1 (BrinstAmour, Otto). Sherts as yout O-7-9-7-22. P. 13-10-16-39. Geoffes: O-Baies, Remanur, P-Neschill.

Trampa Bay

9 2 2 8—4

Fixt Period: T-Andreychuh, S. (sh.). Z. T.,

Hudson 2 (Boumpartner). Socoud Period: T.

Sradicy 3.. 4 T-Murphy 5 (Hendrickson, Wood).

5. T-Bellows 7 (Peril, Bradicy) (pp). Third

Period: T-Yschoer! 6 (Brodley, Bornister) 24.

7. T-Gratton 7 (Hamrith, Collen) (pp). 8. T.,

Hogue 3 (Andreychuk, Sundin), Overline—9. T.

Hogue 4 (Sundin, Momessa): 22. Shats as good:

T-13-10-9-2—34. T-11-17-9-0—37. Geolles: T-

Period: F-Mellanby 11 (Woolley, Svehia) (pp). -Name, Shats on goal: V-9-11-4-3-27.

First Period: C-Daze 10 (Savard, Grieve), 2. New York, Ferroro 9 (Verbeek), 3, C-Murphy 7 (Roenick, Sutter), 4; C-Roenick 11 (Chellos)

First Period—Note, Second Period: S.L.-Macimis 4, (pp.) 2, S.L.- Friesen 2 (Maier, Dohlen), Third Period: S.L.-Tordil 1 (Lopenters, Censon), 4, S.L.-Nooron 7 (Macrinis) (en), Shots on goal; S.L.-7-8-7-22, S.L.-7-14-9-30, Godler, S.L.-Terrel 3-1-0 (29

First Period: L.A. Grando 7 (Grettley, Sydor), 2.
L.A.-(Drinfelin 7 (Kunt, Tocchet), 2.
L.A.-(Khristich 8 (Tocchet), 4. New York, Clork 7
Greveryn), Second Period: L.A.-Yochmerev 9
(Grandin Grettley), 4. L.A.-Lockit 4 (Long, Todd), 7, L.A., McSorley 3 (Grettley, Yochmerev), 8. New York, Green 9 (Musica, McCable) (pp.), Taird Period: L.A.-Sydor 1
(Kunt, Grettley) (pp.), 13, L.A.-Grettley 7
Templekov, Tymorov), 11, L.A.-Grettley 7 (Tryplokov, Taygorov), 11, LA.-Yochmetrev 10 (Gretzlov, Granuto), Shots on goal: New York 15-15-6-36. LA. 14-10-17-41. GonDes: New

TENNIS ATP WORLD CHAMPIO IN FRANKFURT WHITE CHOUP

PREDAY, IN PRETURIA of 1st innings: 361-9 SECOND THE FREIAY, IN HOSART

TRANSITIONS

TROTT—Acquired Mork Lewis Infliction, Cincinnal to complete the David Wells

base coach,
DARLAND—Normed Art Howe manager and
Signed him to 2-year carboxi.
SEATTLE—Wahed Chits Howard catcher,
and Warren Newton, outfleider,
NATIONAL LEAGUE
COLORADO—Named Jackie Moore Coach,
tomed Sonny Siebers pitching couch and Yony
Terchia, coach, for Colorado Springs, PCL
LOS (NECLES—Signed Ramon Martinez,
pitcher, of 3-year contract.
Naw York—Bought Contracts of Eric Lindwick, pitcher, and Charife Greene, catcher, from
Nortall, IL.

PRESENT OF WORNERS FROM CEVERING.

NATIONAL PROTESALL

NATIONAL PROTESALL LEAGUE

DERVER—Signed CHifford Hicks, come
INFLAMAPOLE—Worker Glen Care

Rebooker, Signed Vince Workers, a

back, Signed Tyronne Jones, wide recei
procine squad.

Manual Ref Ether Abdedd and Care

Manual

talked for the first time since

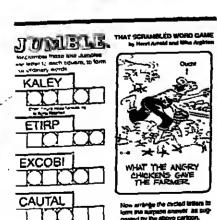
whelming majority of referees NEW YORK - Locked-out and we have asked the union referees scoffed at the newest representatives to put our proay of the Na- posal to a vote bership," said the NBA commissioner, David Stern.

while the league said it would The regular referees, however, were oot thrilled. They said The sides met for more than 1.25 percent per year increase

five hours, a day after they over the NBA's previous offer. The proposal, the league Oct. 28. The NBA said its proposal provides an average 10 cials \$85,000 per year and top-percent annual increase over scale officials \$261,000 this season. In the last year of the "We believe that we have deal, starting officials would made a very favorable offer that make \$90,000 and top-scale refwould be accepted by the over- erecs would be paid \$328,000.



SEE? MAS WILSON IS NICE EVEN WHEN SHE DOESN'T HAVE TO BE.



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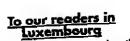
> To our readers in Luxembourg

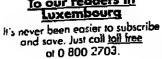
PEANUTS

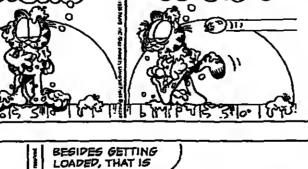




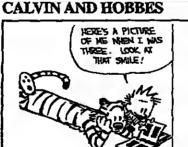




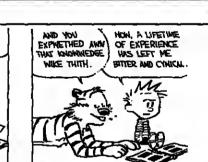












WIZARD of ID



THE FAR SIDE



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BLONDIE



PAGE AG

12 Manin Lan Lan St

While Waiting for a Pizza

l would say that the biggest advantage ample, 1 strongly recommend "Hawaii Barry Scheck and then have sex with ...

Five-Q," starring Jack Lord as Steve Mc(ZAP) Garrett, a man with the emotional range of Formica, who, on the basis of owning more from six women who say: 'I am FED UP suits than anybody else, has been given the joh of fighting all the crime in the Hawaiian Islands. This is not easy, because Steve's entire police force consists of just three men (two of whom are named "Chin") who mostly just stand around, cowlike, unable to blow their own noses without explicit instructions from Steve. This means that Steve just about always ends up capturing the bad guys himself, usually after a shootout, which Steve always wins because he can deflect bullets with his hair.

But for sheer reliability of plot, you can't beat reruns of "Baywatch," the popular series featuring female lifeguards who are required by law to wear impossibly tight bathing suits all the time, even at the supermarket, in case they suddenly have to Fat Beach, which is covered with civilians who also have incredible bodies. Every few minutes some guy with a normal body shows up, and he immediately becomes depressed, because next to these people he looks like the Pillsbury Doughboy. In despair, he dives into the ocean and starts drowning, which is the signal for several of female lifeguards to run toward the water. It takes them about 15 minutes to get there; the No Fat Beach lifeguard station is apparently located miles from the actual ocean. So most of the show consists of close-up shots of these women's bodies running, running, running, Fortunately, the Pillsbury Doughboy is a terrible drowner, so he's always still alive when they finally get to him. Then it's time for a commercial, after which we return to the beach and . . . Uh-oh! ANOTHER victim is drowning! Time to start running again!

But as good as the dramatic reruns are,

MIAMI — People often ask me: they don't hold a candle to the first-run "Dave, what's the higgest advantage shows. When you check these out, you'll of working at home, other than that you need a remote control so you can zap don't have to get dressed until 4:30 p.m., rapidly from one to another, to fully apwhen the pizza-delivery person arrives preciate the hreadth of issues being covered by leading thinkers such as . . .

". . . Maury Povich, and today we're for me, as a writer, is that, instead of taking a long-overdue look at the issue of writing, I can spend an enormous amount of men who force their wives to dress up time watching daytime television. For ex- exactly like O.J. Simpson defense attorney

... Ricki Lake, and today we'll hear with the way my best friend's mother's lover's wife's daughter's boyfriend, whose baby I am having, has been sneaking around behind my back having an affair

"... Newt Gingrich, among others, and that is why, Mr. Speaker, I call upon the estimated six Americans watching these proceedings on C-SPAN to support my bill to create a U.S. Commissioo on Sponge and Oyster Diseases, which will ensure that future generations of Americans will be able to enjoy . . .

. . sex with cross-dressing anorexic sheep fondlers who claim they acquired venereal warts from . . .

. . Judge Wapner, who today will rescue somebody. Their job is to guard No consider the case of a woman whose doctor diagnosed her with appendicitis, but when surgeons opened ber up, they were shocked to discover ... (ZAP)

. . . this genuine cubic zirconium pendant with a retail value of \$385,000, but YOU pay only \$9.95, because as a member of the Home Shopping Network, you get

... carry the love child of ... (ZAP)

... Danno, Chin and Chin! I want you to interview every right-handed person on Oahu and find out who . . .

... is routinely having wild, margarinesmeared sex with . . .

... the Pillshury Doughboy." Speaking of whom, my pizza is here. Knight-Ridder Newspapers.

The Odd Boxes of Marie-Claude de Brunhoff

DARIS - Literary Paris, and literary New York and London as well, collected here last week for the usual gossip and, more unusually, for a laugh and a look. "You had me fooled," a man from Gallimard told Marie-Claude de Brunhoff, for whom they had gathered.

Everyone knew for years that de Brunhoff, an otherwise extremely soignée Parisian, has been scavenging

MARY BLUME

for odd small objects and arranging them in boxes, but this was taken as an amiable diversion from her work as a reader and scout for Gallimard, Calmann-Lévy, HarperCollins and Knopf. The highly professional result is revealed in her first solo show at the Samy Kinge gallery at 54 rue de Verneuil, called "Les Théâtres immohiles," or Motionless Theaters, in which the boxes serve as stages for the most unlikely accounts of myth, history and art.

Asked by an earnest publisher for the source of her inspiration, de Brunhoff replied that it was simply laughter. "If a box makes me laugh I go on, if not I take it apart." What is going on in the boxes is antic and odd, both smartly Parisian and open to whatever the viewer wishes to make of it — de Brunhoff likes to line the boxes with

slivers of mirrors because, she says, this makes them endless and unlimited. It also involves the viewer in the

The titles, such as "The Dreams of Venus de Milo,"
"Die Freischütz," "The Rape of Europa," and "Adam
and Eve" may sound conventional, but the statuette of the
Venus de Milo reclines in a Japanese hammock and
isabout to be intruded upon by a rhinoceros; the hunter of
"The Freischitz" found in a impostore, stands foursquare "Die Freischlitz," found in a junkstore, stands foursquare next to a smallish rabbit ("I don't know that that's Weber's sense of humor but it's mine," de Brunhoff says); Europa is a transparent plastic damsel complacently strapped to a borse rather than a bull ("I couldn't find a bull, and anyway why not?"); in "Adam and Eve" Adam is a Victorian gent (cut from a print in a publisher's catalogue) reading a newspaper with his back to the scene, which makes it all the more understandable that a modish Eve would be enticed by the gorgeous and attentive snake.

The inspirations range from Max Ernst's "A School of Fish," transformed into "A School of Fans," to Cardinal de Bernis, a French libertine who consorted with Casanova and his ladies in Venice (the cardinal is made from a squid-shaped fishing lure), to a hermetically Lacanian "Creation of the World" to St. George and the Dragon, which appears in four versions, in the first of which St. George is defending the maiden with a tiny oar, while in the last, bigger box the scene is influenced by Uccello, the maidens have become triplets and the splet- Brunhoff had to wait for the hunting season to gather the did dragon is the story's star. "I am definitely on the side of the dragon," de Brunhoff says.



Marie-Claude de Brunhoff at the Paris exhibition of her playful boxed scenes from myth and history.

in Paris, raised partly in Mexico, for many years a resident of Célesteville while married to Laurent de Brunhoff of "Babar." She made her first assemblage about 20 years ago for her friend the Argentine writer Julio Cortazar, with whom she used to exchange Dracula books. It was in a cigar box and she assumes that when Cortázar died his estate, thinking it was just a cigar box, threw it away.

She soon graduated to wine and fish crates from neighborhood merchants and when she travels she always carries a sweater, oo matter what the weather, to wrap her findings in. "I never know what I am looking for, my eye just catches things wherever I am, wherever I go.

She doesn't go much to flea markets because she finds them sad. Full-length statuettes of men are hard to find, she says — "they are usually just busts of important figures" — though women are easy and an image of Pauline Borghese stands in for both Dido and the princess of Trehizond.

In Samarkand she found the black veiled headdress that forms part of the backdrop of the last St. George, the maiden from the third St. George was found in a souvenir shop on the top of Mount Vesuvius. Another damsel comes from the top of an Ouzo bottle. The lens in 'Patiner's Eye" (Patiner is a Flemish painter de Brunhoff admires) was given by a photographer friend; de pheasants' feathers that surround it.

Eve was discovered in England, a green egg of Mu-De Brunhoff is widely traveled and multilingual, born rano glass unearthed in Minneapolis, hits of moss come ater is, in a word, play.

from Yucatán. The bird's wings above Venus were found on the west coast of Scotland and the gannet's feet in "Homage to Bunuel," which pays ample respect to the master's shoe fetish, came from a dead seabird that de Brunhoff found on the Ile de Ré and kept in her freezer until she had learned to stuff it. Japanese and taxidermy, she claims, are the only subjects she has studied,

The World Pro-

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fattice.

Novelist friends help in the search. Marie Chaix brought shells from Key West, Diane Johnson got baroacles in Loodon, Edmund White wrote the preface to the catalogue and weot with her to Vesuvius. The pervasive inspiration is swimming and the sea: "Going to a Jam Session on a Sunday Afternoon" features a mermaid and fish as well as a toy trumpet from Conran's. "Anything can happen under water," de Brunhoff says.

Anything can indeed happen or seem to happen. Eveo a straightforward scene in which Aeneas jilts Dido is as comic as it is fatal. "He's like any man, 'I couldn't help it, my dear,' and you can see he's murderous,' de Brunhoff says, and there he is, cocky and complacent in his helmet made of an inverted halogen bulb and plumed with red feathers, seated in a Frank Gehry-style cardboard chair and holding a small black sword.

'It's the assemblage of things that makes them alive. Humor brings them together, it's like vibes between people and suddenly it becomes a story. It's a game, you can do what ever." de Brunhoff says. Motionless The-

POSTCARD

The Unlikely Bistros of Hanoi's Nouveaux Riches

By Tim Larimer New York Times Service

HANOI — Everyday at luncbtime, members of Hanoi's emerging wealthy class descend upon a restaurant where they are charged inflated prices and wait 30 minutes for a table to eat peasant food served by rude waitresses in a shell of a building dirty with dust and debris.

The restaurant, Com Nieu, is one of the trendiest places in town and a stroll away long. from Ho Chi Minh's mausoleum. And it is riding the wave of new prosperity that is the two decades since, finding food was a as common as McDonald's franchises in turning Hanoi, ooce a bastion of coi

munism, into a den of consumerism. Here, wealthy people park their shiny new \$3,000 motorcycles and clip on their rice and meat. On the rare occasions when telephone beepers to peruse a menu that market stalls were stocked with food, many includes catfish fried in a sweetened fisb sauce, tofu with a spicy sauce of chilis, wild boar grilled on skewers and, the specialty their money.

m Mood m Mood by IPN of
of the house that gives the restaurant its name, rice cooked slowly in terra-cotta

Our grandparents ate this traditional food, but then it disappeared and we only heard about it," said Vu Minh Hien, a 33year-old tennis coach. "During the war we were all poor. Lately we start to think about huying new houses, new clothes, a oew TV. Only now do we stop to think about the kind of food we have missed for so

survival skill in Hanoi.

Even young college students remember standing in line for their family's rations of

WEATHER

Forecast for Sunday through Tuesday, as provided by Accu-Weather

North America New York City and Washin on O.C., will have a life rate or wat show Sund

Even finding a decent bowl of pho, a noodle soup with meat that is a staple of the ietnamese diet, was nearly impossible.

The police would come and confiscate all of my pots," said Dao Thi Thinh, purveyor of some of Hanoi's most popular

Now, 10 years after the country's leaders embarked on an economic reform program that gutted much of the teners of Communism, restaurant cuisine has emerged from the back alleys. Food is abundant, at For all of the Vietnam War and most of least in the cities like Hanoi. Pho stands are America.

A boisterous restaurant scene has sprung up, featuring for the first time the regional cuisines of Saigon and Hue and specialities like snake and wild game. Lunch with beer people were reluctant to buy it for fear they would raise suspicions about where they got alent of about \$10, compared with \$2 for two bowls of pho and beer.

Latin America

THE long and winding road that led to this weekend's Beatles reunion apparently was driven in part by cash. "Kicking and screaming" all the way, George Harrison agreed to participate in "The Beatles Anthology" TV special mainly because be needs the money. Geoffrey Givliana told. needs the money, Geoffrey Giuliano told the New York Post, Giuliano has written 20 books about the Fab Four. Harrison will earn \$80 million for his part in the production of the three-part, six-hour documentary.

Yuri Grigorovich, who quit the Bolshoi Ballet earlier this year after three decades as its iron-willed leader, says he plans to form a new ballet company soon. Grigorovich said he would stage productions along with "my upils and people with whom we have similar views." Itar-Tass reported. He quit as ballet master and artistic director of the Bolshoi over government plans to set up a board of directors and a contract hiring

Barbara Bush isn't sure she wants a school named after her. "This new experience of having people want to name things after us is really quite flattering until you realize they usually do it for people who are very, very old or dead," Bush, 70, said in Mesa, Arizona. The Mesa school district is naming an elementary school after her to recognize her advocacy of literacy and education.

A Russian couple is enjoying their Hawaii boneymoon despite losing \$3,100 in cash, which they left in the restroom on the plane. The money was in an envelope Michail Rakov inadvertently left in the restroom on a flight from St. Petersburg. When he went back for the money, it was gone. But, it didn't take long for the Hawaii-bound passengers to find their spirit of aloha. Flight attendants took up a collec-tion, and Rakov and his wife, Katrina, landed in Honolulu with \$1,200. A fellow

Tina Turner has announced plans for a iour next year of England, Scotland and Wales. At a news conference in the Hyde Park Hotel in London, she said she began to feel like going on stage again while she was recording of "Goldeneye," the theme song for the new James Bond movie, has reached

passenger put up the Rakovs at his botel.



ON THE SIDEWALKS OF NEW YORK - The radio personality Howard Stern, in drag, on Fifth Avenue to promote his new book, "Miss America."

No. 10 on the British charts one week after dom because Hussein dislikes such displays.

PEOPLE

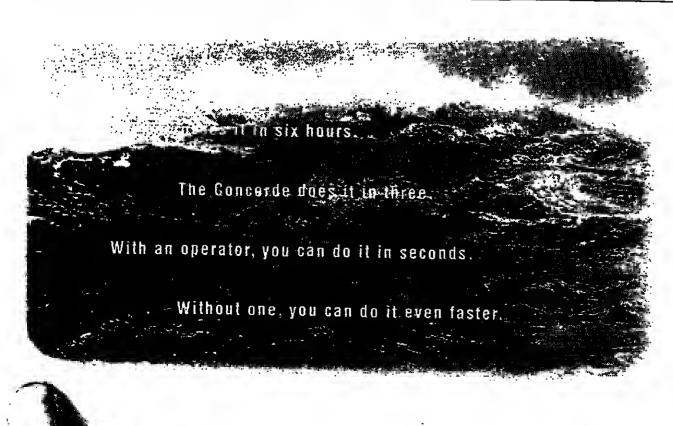
Johnnie Cochran Jr., lawyer for O.J. Simpson, the late singer Nat (King) Cole, the Atlanta Hawks coach Lenny Wilkens. country singer Charley Pride, and opera singer Kathleen Battle are receiving Trumpet awards from the Turner Broad-casting System. The Trumpets are career achievement awards for hlack Americans.

King Hussein of Jordan has ordered the removal of a bronze statue of himself that was erected in a public park in Amman to mark his 60th hirthday. The statue was flown in from London as a birthday present from the Municipality of Greater Amman recording her first album in five years. Her and was designed by a London-based Iraqi recording of "Goldeneye," the theme song sculptor, Nida Kathem. Portraits and statues of Jordan'a leaders are rare in the king-

Cvarus* =

He has criticized the media for focusing too much attendon on the royal family.

A deep-sea trove of more than a million Saudi silver coins is certain to be split up after an attempt to sell them as one lot failed. experts said Friday. The collection, hauled up last year from the bottom of the Arabian Sea, has been valued at around \$20 million, but it failed to attract a single hid at an auction by Sotheby's. "There may be a mystery around them and what else was on board, but that was obviously not enough to convince hard-nosed people in this business to buy 16 tons of coins at one go," said a specialist. The coins were in a secret shipment sent by the United States to Saudi Arabia in 1944 to ensure steady oil supplies for the allies fighting Nazi Germany. The ship, the John Barry, was sunk by a German submarine off Oman.



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